Dear Parents and Members of our School Community

During our lives we experience major transitions. Transitions around education revolve around moving into different types of schooling for example beginning kindergarten, moving from kindergarten to primary schooling, going into secondary schooling from primary schooling and moving from secondary schooling into tertiary education, the workplace or trade school.

At this time of year many of you will be beginning to think about how you can make this transition as smooth as possible for your child, to reduce anxiety and drops in achievement.

As a school we are extremely aware of this and have recently been talking with the Catholic secondary schools that we feed into so that we can create a comprehensive transition programme for our students to reduce anxiety upon entering secondary school and provide surety around the curriculum covered. This is a positive step in our evolution as a school which we expect to benefit our students for many years to come.

Please see the link below to read information on how parents can support/prepare their children for major education transitions.


Congratulations to our P&F who last week were invited to the P&F Federation of WA awards at Crown last Friday night. I had the pleasure of dining with our P&F executive as they were nominated for the award of “Excellence in Building a Positive Community”. Although they did not take out the award we are still very proud of our P&F and the excellent job that they do in building community and funding educational resources for our students of not only today but also tomorrow. I cannot speak highly enough of the job that they do for our school.

Well done to Rod Dowling and Steve Keeley for taking up the initiative to introduce the ‘Fathering Project’ into our school community. This will provide opportunities for dads to come together with other dads and spend quality time with their children. The response to the first meeting was sensational.

There are still some spaces available for 4 year old Kindy for 2018. If you have a child you need to enrol for that year please do so or if you have friends or family looking to enrol please get them to apply now to avoid disappointment.

Don’t forget to read the Assistant Principal’s report to see what has been happening around the school and what is coming up on the horizon.

Collingwood have won two in a row, beating the Cats who are in the top four. Jump on board as we endeavour to maintain the momentum against the fast running Bulldogs this week.

Until next week
God Bless

Darren McDonald
Principal

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<td>27 May</td>
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**Assistant Principal’s Report**

Dear Families and Friends,

This week marks the halfway point of Term 2. Our community came together on Monday evening for the first MOB (Men Of Benedicts) session. This was an initiative set up by a number of dads and underpinned by The Fathering Project. We were lucky enough to have cricketer Mike Hussey in attendance to give his perspective on being a father and professional athlete. The evening was a great success with around 60 dads in attendance, each giving an honest reflection of the joys and challenges of being a father. The aim of the program is to bring Dads/father figures and students together through a range of inclusive activities. I would like to thank all the Dads involved, it was a great example of the strength of our parent community. Next week we will have our Reconciliation sacramental workshop with our Year 3 students and their parents coming together in the Albert Lynch room at 7pm on Tuesday evening. Finally our Faction cross-country carnival will take place at Tompkins Park on Wednesday the 1st of June. If you have any questions about the programs above, please come and see one of the staff at the school.

PP Blue will be dazzling us this Friday with their class assembly so please join us and come and see what these little ones have been up to.

Ben Will, Assistant Principal

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**Little Bennies Blue News**

We enjoyed a story called *Mr Brown’s Magnificent Apple Tree* this week in Little Bennies Blue. Our children were given the opportunity to taste red and green apples, and they decided which they liked the most. Red was the more popular apple this week. We made beautiful stained glass apples which are on the front door - come and have a look if you’re in the area! One of the children brought in a pomegranate for news and a parent brought a grapefruit in. A lot of our children had never tried either fruit before, and we were delighted to see so many having a taste. Pomegranate fans included Raphael, Samuel, Ezak, Charlotte, Koby and Jordan. Those partial to grapefruit were Samuel, Raphael, Jordan and Charlotte.

Michelle Higgs
Early Childhood Teacher

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**The New and Improved Entertainment Book is available for purchase from Admin.**

Payment options include: Cash, cheque or online. Remind your friends, family & neighbours to buy from us. All funds raised go towards resources for the children of St Benedict’s.

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**Canteen Helpers Required - Can you help?**

Any amount of time is very helpful.

Pease contact Jodie Budiselikc - 0403 330 828
Congratulations to our Year Four students who won the award for best attendance at morning training last week. Today our runners headed out to Tompkins Park for morning training to familiarize themselves with the course for next week’s carnival. The Year Three class will have the opportunity to run the faction cross country course at Tompkins Park next Tuesday after morning tea with Mr Mac. A letter has been sent home regarding this. Our Faction Carnival will be held on Wednesday June 1st. A letter has been sent home asking for your assistance on the day with course marshalling, recording and judging. Our final training session will be held this Friday at Shirley Strickland with the Faction Cross Country Carnival on the morning of Wednesday June 1, at Tompkins Park.

Year 5/6 Winter Sport

On Friday our Year Five and Six students play the final match of their Friday winter sports fixtures against St. Columbas. This fixture is at home therefore handball will be played on our school netball courts, whilst sofcrrosse, soccer and league tag will be played at Shirley Strickland Reserve. We wish them all the best for the final competition before the Lightning Carnival on Friday June 17.

Thank you to Mrs Chapman and Mrs Scott who have assisted with the soccer and handball teams on these competition Fridays.

The Year Six Student competitions against the staff

The St. Benedict’s student population have been very privileged during their lunch breaks to watch two mighty sporting clashes between the ‘Powerhouse’ Year Six students and the ‘Super Fit and Experienced’ St. Benedict’s Staff. Fantastic displays of sporting skill and feats of sportsmanship were demonstrated as our teams went head-to-head in clashes of League Tag and Sofcrosse.

We are in training for the next great clash of European Handball in two weeks time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PP Blue</th>
<th>Whole Class</th>
<th>Year 2 W</th>
<th>Matthew, Sacha</th>
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<tr>
<td>PP White</td>
<td>Nilasha, Benedetta</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Luke, Isobel</td>
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<td>Year 1 B</td>
<td>Katherine, Matisse</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Abbie, Michael</td>
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<td>Year 1 W</td>
<td>Matthew, Alicia, Mattia</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Tyler, Sophie</td>
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<td>Year 2 B</td>
<td>Erica, Michael</td>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Anthony, Sophie</td>
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Buongiorno!

It has been exciting to commence the Italian language program at St Benedict's School this year for all students from Pre-Primary to Year 6. Each week, students are being given opportunities to learn about the Italian language, culture and history.

In Semester One, our focus is on learning and using Italian for social interactions such as greetings and asking and answering simple questions. Through interactive lessons which involve games, music, action-related talk and shared tasks, each week students are learning Italian communication skills. They are strengthening their speaking, listening, reading, viewing and responding skills in the Italian language.

Through learning Italian, students are also able to further develop their literacy skills in English. During lessons, we often discuss the relationship between the English and Italian language and identify similarities and differences between the two languages. Over 60% of English words are derived from Latin and so knowledge of the Italian language can assist students with spelling, reading and writing in English.

It is a pleasure to see that the students are engaged and enjoying the Italian language program. Here is some feedback from some of our students:

“It’s great to find out words in a different language!” – Makayla, Year 2 Blue

“I like Italian because we learn different numbers, words and feelings” – Lauren, Year 1 White

“I can have a conversation in Italian.” – Maeve, Year 4

Grazie!
Signora Giorgi

P & F News

To all our St Bennies families,

Order forms have gone home for a Dominoes Pizza lunch, raising funds for Year 6 Graduation. Please hand all order forms and monies to your classroom teachers by this Friday 27th May if you wish to participate.

Year 6 Graduating Class

The Graduation Committee is organizing a Pizza Lunch Day for the school. It will be held on Thursday June 2nd. You can order pizza and a drink for your child. Spare order forms for lunch is at the end of the newsletter. Can you please have your monies to the class teacher by Friday May 27th.

If you have any enquiries please contact- covella.jaqui@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Thanks for supporting our Grade Six Class
The Graduation Committee

Uniform Shop

The smaller size 6 and 7 shirts have arrived. If you were wanting a smaller long sleeved blue shirt come see us at the Uniform shop on Thursday from 8.30 to 9.30am.
MIKE AND THE MOB

Aussie cricketing great, Mike Hussey, visited St Benedict’s earlier this week where he addressed 45 dads in the school library at the inaugural gathering of The MOB (The Men of Benedict’s), a offshoot of the Fathering Project which seeks to encourage fathers to become Champion Dads.

Hussey shared how his own father, a lover of athletics, never forced his own desires onto his children. Instead, he supported them in the pursuit of their dreams and especially their passion for cricket. “Dad always encouraged us to give 110%”, Hussey stated. “He never got angry when we messed up.” “Kids need to make heaps of mistakes to find their own way”, he said when relating to his own experience of fathering four children. “I try not to swoop in and fix their problems. I don’t parent with anger or intimidation. I try and help them out to find a way through the tough challenges.”

Rod Dowling, presented the mission of the MOB, and detailed how fathers and father-figures of St Benedict’s students might become Champion Dads.

“The MOB is not owned by a limited few but is there to support and serve all dads at St Benedict’s community in their own journey of becoming better fathers,” he said. “You as a dad will benefit from a better relationship with your kids and, most importantly, so will they.”

It is hoped that this new group the MOB will inspire and support fathers to better engage with their children, and be a place where dads from the school community can share advice with one another.

The way forward presently being suggested is to have a minimum of one event each school term which offers activities that create opportunities for interaction and bonding between fathers and their children as well as hosting information seminars for specific issues as needs arise.

“Fathers are the most powerful force in Australia to reduce the chances of our kids falling victim to drug abuse, suicide and crime,” the founder of the Fathering Project, Professor Bruce Robinson, recently pointed out. “The economic benefits of a pro-active approach to fathering are enormous. It impacts the key areas of health, education, law and order like no other factor in our society.”

Hussey admitted that his four kids are “all completely different” and that he is “still trying to figure out their personalities”.

“When it comes to parenting,” he said, “I am still evolving and trying to get better and better.” The MOB will seek to encourage fathers in the school and in the parish to become better dads by being present and involved in every stage of their child’s life and to be strong role models within the community.

All fathers and father-figures of St Benedict’s are welcome to come on board. To sign up, please email themobapx@gmail.com or contact Steve on 0417 176 022.

A outline of what the MOB is about will be posted on the schools webpage.

the MOB - St Benedict’s School
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 Program continues in PP and Kindy

Week 4 – Safe and Unsafe Secrets

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

1. Introduce the concept of safe and unsafe secrets
2. Students will identify the difference between safe and unsafe secrets
3. Students will learn they should always tell an unsafe secret to an adult they trust.

School home connection – What you can do at home

This week we talked about the difference between safe and unsafe secrets. Safe Secrets make us feel happy and will make someone else feel happy too, sometimes we call safe secrets “surprises”. We don’t have to keep a safe secret for ever and we can tell someone about it if we want to. Some secrets are Unsafe, they make us feel worried or scared or unsafe. We shouldn’t keep an unsafe secret to ourselves and always tell an adult we trust.

We talked about the difference between safe and unsafe secrets by reading the book “Snow Bears Surprise” – encourage your child to tell you about the story.

The Children took home two activities to do this week at home:

1. Secrets Activity Sheet – ask your child which of these secrets would be safe or unsafe
2. NO UNSAFE SECRET ZONE POSTER – encourage your child to draw a picture of a safe and unsafe secret and bring back to school to display on the Protective Behaviour Wall in their classroom.
3. Develop an expectation that secrets can always be shared with someone they trust. If your child tells you they have a secret, you may find the following questions helpful as a guide:
   - Is it a safe or unsafe secret?
   - Who told you the secret? Who else knows the secret?
   - How does the secret make you feel? Do you have any early warning signs?
   - How long do you need to keep the secret? Remind them that unsafe secrets should not be kept and need to be shared with a trusted adult.

www.protectivebehaviourswa.org.au

Next parent workshop [City of South Perth, May 24th 6-8pm – see website for details].

Contact: Stephanie
ST Benedict’s Primary
Ph: 6217 3500 - st.benedicts.p.r@ed.wa.gov.au
Canteen Volunteers List
Manager: Jodie Budiselikc - 0403 330 828

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>Jessica Djayawinata, Vanessa Phillips</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>8 June</td>
<td>Colleen Morris, Eileen McKenzie</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>15 June</td>
<td>Eileen McKenzie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>Help Needed Please</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>Help Needed Please</td>
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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.

Canteen orders must be placed into the blue wheelie bin by 8.30am on Tuesday mornings.

Please write your child’s name and order on either an old envelope or brown lunch bag and securely enclose the money with it.

Challenging Behaviour
A WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES

Developmental Disability WA, the Side by Side Project and the Disability Services Commission of WA are pleased to invite parents and other family members to come along and explore:

- Common myths about challenging behaviour.
- Why people behave in challenging ways.
- What is Positive Behaviour Support.
- Understanding each other (when challenging behaviour is in the way).
- How to develop plans for long term strategies which are going to be helpful.

This interactive workshop is being presented by a team of parents and professionals who have been working together and have identified real strategies of support that are achievable and lasting.

Where: Rockingham—Gary Holland Community Centre 19 Kent St, corner Finders Lane, Padbury—Forrest Park Community Centre 47 Forrest Road.

Cost: Free Event—Registration includes welcome morning tea & light lunch.

Online Registration: Go to www.ddc.org.au/events-june-2016/

Information: mary.butlerworth@ddc.org.au or 9420 7230
St Benedict’s School
Domino’s Pizza Lunch Day
Organized by the Graduation Committee
Thursday June 2nd 2016

Student Name ________________________________

Class ______________________________________

Option 1
One piece of pizza & juice box $3
☐ Ham & Cheese
☐ Simply Cheese
☐ Hawaiian

Option 2
Two pieces of pizza & juice box $5
☐ Ham & Cheese
☐ Simply Cheese
☐ Hawaiian

If your child has special dietary needs please let us know.

Please hand all monies to the class teacher by Friday 27th of May.

If you have any enquiries please contact: covella.jaqui@cathednet.wa.edu.au
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.

To book visit www.campaustralia.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.
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.


We look forward to seeing you soon!

St Benedict’s School Camp Australia Team.

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The Choristers Camp is in Perth 2016!

The Royal School of Church Music Australia offers a residential camp for 8-18 year olds who have a passion for singing. It is run every winter in Western Australia, and can be anywhere from Geraldton to Esperance, but this year, the week-long residential event will be based in Claremont!

Choir Camp is about more than just singing. It is a place of companionship, acceptance, laughter and fun where, over the years, many participants have made life long friends that get to meet up again and again as they come back each year. Voice For Life badges can be earned, and a wide variety of music is covered.

Camp fees include all meals, activities, accommodation, transport, and music.

Applications close on 30th June, but apply before 31st May for your discount!

What: Annual Choristers Camp
When: 5 July 2016 until 10 July 2016
Where: Christ Church Grammar School, Claremont

email for more information - laplhillips@iinet.net.au