Dear Parents and Members of our School Community

Last Wednesday night students from 4/5 and 6 performed their dance story item for Wakakirri at the Regal Theatre in Subiaco. Without being too biased I would like to say that our school’s performance was outstanding. This has been validated by the fact that our students have made it into the National Finals on Thursday September 15 back at Regal Theatre. They have also won the regional “Best Social/Current Affair” award along with the “Best Back Stage School” and “Most Creative use of Reusable Materials” awards. Even though it is about the journey not the end result it is wonderful to see the students and staff lead by Mrs De Winnaar and Mrs Hopper get reward for all their hard work. We wish them well in the final and know that whatever happens we are extremely proud of them all.

Students from year 6 who attend Mr Will’s “Challenge Club” took part in the academic challenge competition, Da Vinci Decathlon last Friday. The students participate in 10 academic events across the many disciplines of the curriculum. Our students did not win the day but got the best result ever for a school participating for the first time and finished ahead of schools such as Trinity and Wesley College. Upon visiting the students during the day they were so engaged and thankful for the opportunity but they were also very challenged by what the day presented and had to work hard.

This Saturday students from “Challenge Club” are participating in the Tournament of Minds. Which is once again an academic challenge that revolves around problem solving and creative thinking. These students have been working very hard on Tuesdays after school with Mr Will to prepare for the event. We wish them well as they continue to embrace the extra-curricular opportunities offered to them by our school.

This leads me into what I would like to talk about today and that is the benefits of extra-curricular activities for students. Research has shown that student behaviour, academic performance, school completion, social skills and skills for adulthood are all positively affected by taking part in extra-curricular opportunities. Reasons for this can be that students are able to delve deeper into areas of passion or interest, have to develop time management skills, are engaged and learning what it is to make a commitment.

At St Benedict’s many extra-curricular opportunities are available beginning with sports training before school throughout the year for our various sporting teams, there is the “Performing Arts Club” on Monday afternoons which has had Wakakirri as a focus for the last two years, The newly formed “Challenge Club” operating on Tuesday after school which is offering even more academic challenge for students who wish or require it. There is the school choir that operates on a Thursday morning. Our students have won the “Best Back Stage School” and “Most Creative use of Reusable Materials” awards. Even though it is about the journey not the end result it is wonderful to see the students and staff lead by Mrs De Winnaar and Mrs Hopper get reward for all their hard work. We wish them well in the final and know that whatever happens we are extremely proud of them all.

Please see the paper attached for the benefits of extra-curricular activity. I should mention that everything in moderation is important too, as doing everything on offer, particularly in secondary school can overload students and then will be counter-productive in what we are trying to achieve through extra-curricular activities.

A brilliant effort saw the Pies distinguish the Suns on Sunday. Only one more game for the Pies this year. Wouldn’t it be terrific if they beat the Mighty Hawks to finish the year on a high. C’mon Pies!!

Until next week, God Bless

Darren McDonald
Principal
Dear Families and Friends,

Throughout this week our school has celebrated Book Week. This year's theme has been Australia: Story Country. Students have had the pleasure of attending storytelling sessions, dressing up for our Book Parade and browsing all of the wonderful items for sale at the Book Fair. Thank you to Mrs Noonan for all of her hard work in organising Book Week for our school.

Today our Year 6 students participated in their Confirmation Retreat Day at Heathcote. The retreat day provides a special opportunity for students to finalise their preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Thank you to all of the staff and parent volunteers who assisted in running today’s retreat day.

Congratulations to all of the students who represented our school over the past week at the Da Vinci Decathlon and the Interschool Chess Tournament. It has been brilliant to see our students competing in such high level academic competitions. We are extremely proud of your efforts.

May you all have a beautiful week,

Michelle Christian, Assistant Principal

**Assistant Principal News**

Sick Absentee vs Holiday Absentee

Absentees, due to illness, require a sick note to the teacher, this can be in the form of the school Absentee Note (available on the school website), alternatively an email can be sent to your child's teacher and administration on the day of the absence. The email is as good as a signed Absentee Note. Please note that irrespective of whether you choose to write an email or a note, Administration must be informed prior to 9.30am of your child's absence.

Holiday vacation, outside of the designated Term Holidays require a separate note to be filled in and returned to Administration for Mr McDonald’s approval. This note too can be located on our school website. Please ensure that these are done at least 3 weeks prior to your vacation departure.

Please contact Administration if any of the above is unclear and requires clarification.

**4 Yr Old Kindy News**

In the past couple of weeks we have 'visited' Croatia and Malaysia! Gabriela & Genevieve's dad sang us the most beautiful Croatian song and the girls bravely sang along with him. We saw some truly wonderful photos of the Dalmatian Coast.

We also had Lauren's mum, Jane, join us at Kindy. Jane told us about gorgeous Malaysia and we made a very colourful 'Wau' kite. We also tried our hand at making Batik Cake.. yum!

Of course, another highlight was our Book Week dress up day. Thank you to everyone who prepared the children and to Joel's mum, Megan, for taking a very professional photograph of us.

Reminder that our Kindy Mini Olympics will be held on Monday, 29 August at 1.40-3.00pm on the school oval. Please join us if you can.

Together we will grow and learn.

Kindy White

**BOOK WEEK**

A huge thank you to everyone for making Dress Up Day such a success.

Remember the Book Fair is open until Friday.

It is open at lunchtime, after school until 4.00pm and before school from 8.00am. Children may also buy books during their normal library lessons.

Thank you once again

Mrs Noonan

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Mrs Noonan
To all our St Benny’s families,

This year’s Fathers Day Breakfast will follow the liturgy on Thursday 1st September, so please return your RSVP slip and all monies to your classroom teacher by Monday 29th August. It is a fantastic opportunity to bring someone special along to celebrate the wonderful contribution fathers, and father figures, make in our children’s lives.

Gala tickets are continuing to sell, so please follow the link below to secure your tickets. Also, please follow our page on Facebook to keep updated on developments for the event.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/StBenedicts.Gala2016/

We also have an offer from dress hire boutique Wardrobe Envy to donate 15% from each dress rented for our event, so please see the flyer on the community news page for more details if you are thinking of renting an outfit.

Also, a reminder that we have a P&F meeting tonight at 7pm in the library.

Have a wonderful week, Tanya Dowse-Kerr, P&F President

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Applecross Parish News

**BUSY BEE - 27 AUGUST**

8am - 12 pm

Many hands make light work, so even an hour or so would be most appreciated. Please bring your own gloves and gardening tools.

Hard work is rewarded with Morning Tea ….

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**MJR Award**

Please join us in congratulating Miss Lewis for being this week’s MJR Award recipient.

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**Pre-Primary Religion**

This week in Religion, we are continuing to wonder about God and His love for us. Through Bible stories, we are learning how Jesus helped his followers to remember God’s love, so that we too, can show love to God, our families and the community. The Pre-Primary children discussed the ways that they show love to their family and friends. The children then created their own ‘God Loves Me Flower’. In each petal the children illustrated the ways that they show their love. We are looking forward to our Liturgy on September the 7th!

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**The Da Vinci Decathlon**

On Friday, 19 August, seven students from Year 6 went to Wesley College to participate in the Da Vinci Decathlon. The decathlon consists of 10 different challenges. These were Cartography, Science, Code Breaking, Philosophy, Maths, General Knowledge, English, Engineering, Art/Poetry and Creative Producers. Each challenge was difficult and they definitely weren’t easy to complete. There were 16 different schools competing and St Benedict’s placed 10th overall. The competition was an incredible experience and we all tried our very best and we were left with an incredible result. “The greatest pleasure is the joy of understanding.” This is a famous quote by Leonardo Da Vinci himself. It is also the Decathlon’s motto.

*By Truman Han*
The previous fortnight has seen the continuation of the Protective Behaviours Program in years 4-6. Over the course of the last two weeks the children have learnt about the early warning signs that occur in their bodies in response to feeling scared or worried. The children also learnt that these physical sensations can occur in other scenarios that may not necessarily be unsafe. They learnt the concept of the “Safety Continuum” and how there may be situations that are safe, unsafe, fun to be scared (like going on a rollercoaster) or risking on purpose, (like getting a needle). We learnt that feeling safe or unsafe in certain situations is related to whether there was control, choice and a time limit in the exercise/situation.

The children were able to learn through class exercises that the feeling of safety is individual, so different for all of them. Teaching also included understanding the difference between safe and unsafe secrets. The children discussed various scenarios considering whether each situation was safe or unsafe, including the sharing of information online and through other social networks.

Last week the children learned and identified their own networks – those people in their lives who they trust and those who would listen, believe and take action if needed to keep them safe. Finally they were told to persist and understand the importance of persisting in asking for help if they do not receive help initially. This is why the children were told to have more than one person on their network and to be aware of their Network People in advance.

I encourage you to ask your child about their network and share this information with their network people.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC

DATE: Thursday 29th September, 2016
TIME: 1:00-3:00PM
VENUE: All Saints College, Ewing Ave Bull Creek
Grab your friends and come and join in the fun!
MILO in2CRICKET for girls and boys aged 5-7
MILO T20 BLAST for all girls aged 7-12 and boys aged 7-11
RSVP by heading to the following website:

4 Yr Old Kindy Blue News

We have had so much fun visiting different countries this term - so far we have been to China, Poland and Brazil.

We have had lots of lovely family members come in and share things about these countries with us.

Lisa’s mum came in and cooked fried rice with us, Mason’s Bubcia made a delicious cake and we made Olympic ring cookies because Brazil is hosting the Olympics. We also made Carnival masks and paraded around the school.

Mrs De Pannone
SEEKING UNWANTED or PRE LOVED BOOK WEEK DRESS UP’s for CHILDREN IN A REFUGE

RUAAH is an organisation which oversees the running of a women and children's refuge in Perth. The necessary and much needed refuge provide crisis accommodation to women and children escaping domestic/family violence and other life crises. Families arrive at the refuge with little or no belongings. The refuge aims to support children to feel included and this means assisting the children to participate in their school's Dress Up Parade on 21st October 2016. Many of the children staying at the refuge often miss out or feel left out as their mother and the refuge have limited funds to put together an outfit or purchase a dress up. Children from Kindy - Yr 6 / boys and girls. If anyone has a book week dress up that they no longer want or are happy to loan please could they can contact Anita on 0409 080 013. Any loaned items will be returned clean. Alternatively, you may hand them into Mrs Funga in Administration. Thanking you in anticipation of your kindness and generosity.
"Book Week Dress Up"

"The Bell of the Ball"
Wardrobe Envy is Perth's NEWEST designer dress hire boutique located in Canningvale. WE has the latest and hottest designs in cocktail and ball gowns to rent at a fraction of new price.

Wardrobe Envy will donate 15% from each dress rented for the St Benedict’s Gala night P & F Fundraiser.

To see our amazing range of cocktail dresses and full length gowns please visit our website www.wardrobeenvyperth.com.

Be quick so you don't miss out on the perfect dress for your special event!

Deborah Mitchell; 0432 818 601
Website; www.wardrobeenvyperth.com
Email; deb@wardrobeenvyperth.com.au
Facebook; Facebook.com/wardrobeenvyperth
Come and Celebrate with your Fantastic Dad

FATHER’S DAY BREAKFAST

Thursday 1st September

7.45AM LITURGY
FOLLOWED BY BREAKFAST
IN THE UNDERCOVER AREA

$10 per family

If Dad can’t make it, bring another special someone.
FREE ANZAC EXHIBITION
The experience presents students with an invaluable once-in-a-lifetime learning opportunity, whilst bringing to life both primary and secondary curriculums. After visiting, teachers are supported with learning materials, which enable them to further explore the exhibition in the classroom.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Your school may wish to advise students and parents in your school newsletter that they can book their own visit to the Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au

Please follow the Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience on social media.

SELL-OUT EXPERIENCE! BOOK YOUR FREE TICKETS NOW

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