



## School Board

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**TERM 4, Week 8**  
**29 November 2017**

**Come, long-expected Jesus, inspire me to see and appreciate my life in a new way. Help me to rethink the ordinary things in my life in terms of gratitude. Quicken my being with Your coming this Christmas. Amen**

*This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent which is the time where we prepare for the coming of our Saviour at Christmas.*

*“Rejoice, exult with gladness; do not fear, dispel your sadness. Raise your hearts, the time is near; Christ the Lord will soon appear.”*

*This ancient Advent prayer-hymn is about living in hope. Hope is a sturdy virtue because it must put up with waiting, postponement and doubts that arise when it seems that what we hope for will not eventuate.*

*Being a Christian is about believing and hoping in God and this firstly requires that we seek Him. Seeking God requires that we don't expect all the answers about God at once; it's a lifetime's quest; being a Christian is about the whole of life. As we experience annual observations such as Christmas, Easter and Advent, we might regard each of them as a door to be opened; as we step through each doorway there is the opportunity for a new sense of direction for our life. Life is almost a constant Advent Season; we are constantly waiting to become..., to discover..., to complete..., to fulfil. However, Advent is also an invitation to remember, to see again the presence of God among us, God who is here from the beginning. “Jesus is the single human being who puts together in one life all the ‘God-light’ scattered over thousands of years from Abraham to Moses to David to Isaiah to John the Baptist to Mary and Joseph, to us here and now.” Author Unknown.*

*When we look at the big screen, we find that Jesus is not just a special baby but the One who brings together all the promises, all the hopes, all the visions, all the miracles, all the dreams of all the people of God. Jesus is our promise, our hope, our vision, our miracle, our dream, because Christmas is our story and Advent is our time to remember our collective past and look forward in hope to our future.*

*We all need periods of waiting in our lives for during such times we mature. We could be likened to grapes that spend time in vats and barrels, just waiting, but eventually maturing to become “full-bodied and rich with long, silky tannins”. We need times of waiting to savour the joy of fulfilment.*

*Sometimes we wait in darkness, when life is not so good, before we can appreciate the coming of dawn. Expectant mothers wait nine months before they can see the faces of their new children. Seeds are buried in the darkness of the earth before they can emerge into the light of day as new shoots. Ideas need to mature in minds before they can emerge as realities. So, Advent, the Season of waiting in hopeful expectation, fits in very well with our own life's experiences of waiting, hoping and then enjoying the rewards of our hope and trust.*

*Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, before he became Pope Benedict XVI wrote: “Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of God who became a child. It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open the doors of hope.”*  
*As we wait and listen in faith, we trust that memory and hope will come alive. Hopefully, when Advent has lead us to Christmas, we will be open to the realisation that God became man, not so that He can be with us but so we can be with Him.*

Until next week, God Bless

Darren McDonald  
Principal



## *Dates to Diarise*

<b>30 Nov</b>	<b>EDU DANCE CONCERT</b>
<b>3 Dec</b>	1st Day of Advent
<b>4 Dec</b>	Advent Liturgy
	Booklist Pickup from 2.30 4.00pm

## Assistant Principal News

Dear Parents and caregivers,

Welcome to Week 8, another fantastic and action packed week in the life of our wonderful school here at St. Benedict's. As November gives way to December, the end of the year is tantalisingly close and yet there still seems to be so much work to do across all fronts.

Our end of year concert incorporating Edu-dance, will take place tomorrow evening on our gorgeous grassed area. The Year 1 classes are preparing a very special Nativity play and reminding us all about the true meaning of Christmas. All routines are wonderfully polished at this point and the excitement is building for what promises to be a fantastic evening. Our student leadership team for 2018 will be presented to the school community at the end of the concert.

On Saturday night our Year 6 students have their Graduation night. An enormous amount of work and preparation has been undertaken for this event. Graduation signifies the end of the St. Benedict's stage of these boys and girls educational journey. We celebrate all the wonderful achievements and memories created during their time here and wish them all the very best as they venture into high school.

Our choir are going to sing at Opal Aged care next Tuesday. We also have Nude Food day next Tuesday where we encourage all students to bring food in it's most natural form to school, as in without wrapping.

God bless,

Katherine Kelly



LEGO lego LEGO lego LEGO

Mr Fonseca, Year 6 Teacher, requires lego of all shapes and sizes for classroom projects. If you have any bits and pieces that you can spare including lego people, please hand into Administration.

## Merit Award Recipients

PP White	<i>Ario, Lauren</i>
PP Blue	<i>Grace, Antonia</i>
Year 1 Blue	<i>Samuel, Nilasha, Noah</i>
Year 1 White	<i>Seth, Madison</i>
Year 2 Blue	<i>Ava, Reece</i>
Year 2 White	<i>Noah</i>
Year 3 Blue	<i>Jaqueline, Murphy, Tyler</i>
Year 3 White	<i>Caleb, Nicholas, Noah</i>
Year 4	<i>Whole Class</i>
Year 5	<i>Whole Class</i>
Year 6	<i>Whole Class</i>

## Parking

Please be respectful of our neighbours and DO NOT park in driveways. Even if your intention is only a few minutes, it is unacceptable for our school community to disrespect our neighbours.

The neighbours CANNOT get out of their houses. Please allow plenty of time when picking up your children. The rush of traffic does clear quickly so please do not park in the wrong areas. Thank you



## Year 1 Blue - Religious Education

Students in Year 1 have been exploring ways in which people prepare for important events, celebrations and activities.

We have also been learning how people prepare for Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Students have also been busy preparing for our upcoming Christmas Nativity play tomorrow night. You are in for a real treat!



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## Pre-Primary White - 21st Century Learning

We have been comparing length and been busy measuring in Pre-Primary. We used Unifix cubes to measure our own height and the height of our sunflower. We recorded our data and compared our height to each other and to our sunflowers. At the moment we are all taller than our sunflowers. We are all different heights to each other. We keep watering our seedlings so they will grow from a tiny seed to a tall plant.

*My sunflower will get bigger than me - Max*  
*This is the first time I planted plants - Lauren*  
*These plants will grow taller than us - Lily*

We read the story "The Sunflower That Went Flop". Mrs Brown has to get Mr Brown to try to fix her sunflower that kept going flop. The rain fixed the sunflower at the end.

*My favourite part of the story was when the rain fixed the sunflower - Carmen*  
*My favourite character was Mrs Brown - Cruz*  
*Mr Brown was my favourite character - Grace*  
*When Mrs Brown cried it was funny - Mason*



## Sport / Health News

### Triathlon Years 4-6, Wednesday, 6 December

There is only one week to go until our super facton triathlon event of the year and the tension is building.

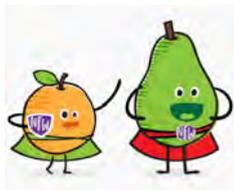
This carnival is designed to add some team fun to our sporting calendar, but to also offer a challenge to those older children who want to give the 'Iron Person' event a try.

We need your help to make this carnival a success. Please email the school if you are free to be a course marshal, no special skills required, just an encouraging voice.

### Nude Food Day – Tuesday December 5

Is your food getting nude? Well next Tuesday is our final 'Nude Food Day' of the year where we encourage you to bring your food to school **NAKED** – no little packages of plastic, no glad wrap, no bags of chips or biscuits, just plain old fashioned fresh food.

We are accepting donations of fresh produce to take to the Salvation Army so please bring along an extra piece or two of your favourite fresh food.



**Fresh is Best!**  
**Do it for your health and for the environment!**

# Community News



## Passport to school holiday fun!

Bookings are now open for our summer Holiday Club program – 'Passport to Summer'.

Join in the summertime fun these school holidays; incursion days include:



### Bags and Pencil Cases With A Splash Of Colour

We're getting ready for the new school year with a splash of colour. Using vibrant colours, we'll get creative by tie-dying calico bags and pencil cases. It'll be to dye for!

At the end of the day you'll be able to take home your new bag and pencil case to use at home or school.



### Make An Erupting Volcano

We'll be building our very own volcanoes and making them erupt. At the end of the day you'll be able to take your volcano home so you can make it erupt again and again - in true volcanic fashion!

### Book into a Holiday Club program

For more information on a Holiday Club program near you and to book visit

[www.campastralia.com.au/holidayclubs](http://www.campastralia.com.au/holidayclubs) and use the 'Holiday Fun finder' on our homepage.

We hope to see you and your family at a Holiday Club program near you soon.

From the Team at Camp Australia.



To find locations near you and to book, visit  
[www.campastralia.com.au/holidayfun](http://www.campastralia.com.au/holidayfun)

# Community News

## *Advent – What Followed??*

*Jesus Christ and Christmas  
What does this mean to us today??*



Please join us for a presentation to be |  
led by Aaron Peters.

Aaron is a permanent Deacon in the Catholic Church, married to Tara with four school age children. He is a year coordinator at John xxiii College and passionate about adult education.

**St Benedict's Church  
Ardross St, Applecross**

**Saturday, 9 December at 7.30pm**

**Please RSVP to:**

Kevin 0407 511 104 Michael 0438 949 155 Karl 0402 273 884  
Or [stbenesfaith@gmail.com](mailto:stbenesfaith@gmail.com)