



# EDGE MOUTH

NEWSLETTER NO. 1

3.2.20

## NEW YEAR: NEW START



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back to a new school year. And, what a wonderful start it has been. When I think about the new school year I think about the infinite possibilities we are afforded with a new start. I love a new year, a NEW month...hey I even love a NEW day as it is a chance to start anew and be renewed. As is found in the Book of Isaiah (43:18-19) *“Forget about what’s happened; don’t keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I’m about to do something brand-new. It is bursting out! Don’t you see it? There it is!”*

This Bible verse is just brimming over with the emotion of the “new start” we all look forward to whenever that might be. For now we stop for a moment and pray for all of the new possibilities that this new school year brings.

**Father,**

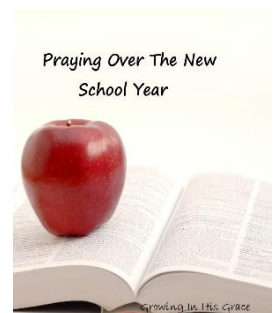
**We thank you for the opportunity this new school year provides and we ask that you bless the students, their families, and staff that make our school a great place. Allow us to experience your presence in the many blessings you put before us. Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting possibilities that this new school year brings.**

**Open our heart and mind to those we meet.**

**Help us to be generous in spirit and to be enthusiastic and courageous to accept new opportunities.**

**We pray that you will guide us in your ways so that we will seek your will in everything we do and love others as you love us.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**



*Community ~ welcoming, working together, challenging*

# IMPORTANT RE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February:** Beginning of School Year Mass 9:45 am Holy Cross Church Glendale.

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February:** Ash Wednesday Service 1:00 pm in school hall.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March:** Parish Kindergarten Welcoming Mass 9:00 am Holy Cross Church Glendale.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March:** Catholic School's Week Liturgy @ St Benedict's at 12:15pm followed by open classrooms

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April:** Holy Week Liturgy 2.15pm in school hall.

Yours in Faith

*Miss Michelle Collins*

(Religious Education Coordinator)



Today's Newsletter is a long one and contains a great deal of important information; so find a quiet moment and take your time.

In my role as Principal, I hope you find me to be an approachable person who hopes to promote St Benedict's as a place where everyone feel welcome and appreciated. I believe in partnerships and place strong emphasis on the importance of developing close links between the school and the parish. I also place

great significance on the relationship between the school and home. I believe that the involvement and participation of parents not only benefits their child's development but assists in building a rich school community. St Benedict's has a dedicated and hardworking staff and will do all they can to make teaching and learning is challenging, interesting and meaningful.

By working together, embracing each other's energy and providing mutual support, we can achieve our individual and common goals. Most EDGE-U-C ATOR's will include the following –

## ***Community ~ welcoming, working together, challenging***

which is a summary of the above and is a reminder to us all of the importance of the relationship between home, school and parish and the significant benefit it has for the children in our care.

I too would like to share a prayer with you.

## **Beginning of the School Year Reflection**

What will this year bring? You do not know; I do not know. But I hope .....

*It will bring its usual quota of work and play, of success and failure...  
all the things that are part of school life.*

*It is a new beginning; the planting of a seed that will grow for a year,  
the seed of fruit that will blossom in times to come.*

*It is a New Hope; hope for good work, for successful results,  
for friendship, for fun, for learning.*

*In this coming year, may there be learning, prayer and fun.*

*May there be hard work, faith and friendship.*

*May no one in this school be lonely; may no one feel left out in class;*

*May no one suffer through others here.*

*As we begin this year in hope, in prayer and in friendship...may the Lord begin it with us, be with us  
during it and successfully bring it to its conclusion.*

*May we, this year, together act justly*

*Together love tenderly*

*and together walk humbly with our God.*

## **VISION STATEMENT**

At St. Benedict's Catholic Primary School we endeavour to follow:-

- St Benedict's motto " Pray Together Work Together"
- the traditions of the Sisters of St Joseph, aspiring to being people of faith, courage and examples of justice for all.

### **STAFFING:**

**Class teacher arrangements for 2020** are:

**Kindergarten: K Red** – Mr Moore

**K Black** – Mrs Lojszczyk

**Year 1 Red** - Mr Armstrong

**1 Black** – Mrs Coleman and Miss Brazel (jobshare)

**Year 2 Red** – Miss Collins (Religious Education Coordinator)

... Miss Laczkowski (Executive Support Teacher)

**2 Black** – Miss Sakoff

**Year 3 Red** - Mrs Reid

**3 Black** – Mrs McKinnon and Mrs McNeely (jobshare)

**Year 4 Red** – Mrs Hunt and Mr Smith (jobshare)

**4 Black** – Mrs Killen

**Year 5 Black** – Mr Bailey (Primary Coordinator)

... Miss Laczkowski (Executive Support Teacher)

**Year 6 Red** - Mr McCosker (Assistant Principal)

... Mrs Coleman (Executive Support Teacher)

**Principal:** Mr M. Hornby-Howell

**School Captains 2020** are Captains – Donnacha Cahill & Ada Durazza Vice-Captains – Brayden Gilbert & Juliet Gossage

**Sport Captains for 2020** are: Bradman – Cooper Anderson & Lara Jarvie Chisholm – Marshall Leedham & Patrick Reynolds Dobell – Ashtyn Ferguson & Kaylee Murphy Freeman – Drew Kremer & Abbey Bacon

The **Mini Vinnies Team** for 2020 is Mia Power (President), Mason McNamara (Vice-President) and Executive Team members:- Addison Baillie, Jaxan Cambridge, Annaleis Mulheron, Andrew Easterbrook, Charli-Jean Kerr, Kim Makanyire, Grace Saneesh, Emily Shields and Brayden Wolloff.

Our first major school event will be our **Beginning School Year Mass** to be held on **Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**. The school community will come together to open the school year. At this Mass the new school leaders will make their pledges and receive their badges, we will also be welcoming our new students to the school. The mass will be held at **Holy Cross Church, Glendale** and will commence at 9.45am. We will travel to the Church by bus. If you have any issues with your child travelling to the Church by bus please contact the school and leave a message. I look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate our new beginning together.

### *Opening School Year Mass*

**Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

*A special opportunity for the school community to come together to open the school year. At this Mass the new school leaders will make their pledges and receive their badges. The mass will be held at **Holy Cross Church, Glendale** and will commence at **9.45am**. The school will travel by bus.*

**SCHOOL HOURS:** Commences: 9.00 Lunch: 11.20am until 12.00pm  
Recess: 1.25pm until 2.00pm Dismissal: 3.00pm

**OFFICE DAYS:** The school Clerical Officer, Mrs Cotton is available; Monday-Friday 8.30 am – 3.00 pm

**SCHOOL PHOTOS:** Will be taken on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Envelopes will be sent home this week and should be returned by Photo Day. If you want a family photo, contact Mrs Cotton for a Family Photo Envelope. A notification will go out on Compass about ordering School Photos online.

**COMPASS:** If you haven't already done so, download the COMPASS App. As you create your account please check that your email is correct and if it isn't change it yourself or contact the school office. Make sure Notifications are turned on. For any COMPASS related issues contact Mr Moore.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM:** The wearing of the correct school uniform is expected. If your child needs to wear an alternative component of the school uniform for a day or two, no problem. However if the change looks as though it could take longer to sort out, I would ask you send a short note of explanation. I am very grateful to the vast majority of families who always support the school uniform policy and send their children dressed appropriately each day. I take this opportunity to remind you of the correct school uniform. **SCHOOL SHOES** are to be **black**. Black joggers are acceptable. However, soft slip on and white soled styles are **NOT** acceptable. **LACES** are black, not the coloured type. **SHORTS** are grey– corduroy, cargo and baggy styles are **NOT** acceptable. **SOCKS** are grey. Anklet style or white socks **are not** part of the school uniform.

A School Hat is an essential part of the School Uniform and Sunsafe Policies. The school has a No Hat – No Play Policy. To assist with sun protection parents are strongly urged to put sunscreen on their children every morning. Hats are available from Jan in the Office at a cost of \$20.00 each (The school does not supply loan hats for children who have forgotten their hats). Library Bags are available from Mrs Cotton in the Office and are \$15.00 each, Reusable Lunch Bags are also available from the Office at \$8.50 each.

**It is my understanding that LOWES have run out of stock in certain items. Until this is resolved , check out the clothing pool or simply have your child wear some comfortable clothing.**

**ATTENDANCE:** In accordance with the **Education Act**, schools are required to keep a daily attendance roll. All absences are recorded and when a note explaining the absence is sent to school the absence is coded accordingly. Parents are required to understand that “Its **Not** OK to be Away ” The Act makes it clear that regular school attendance is compulsory, arriving on time is important and that lateness needs to be explained in the same way as other forms of absence.

As previously notified COMPASS is the new student information, parent communication and finance system, currently being rolled out across the Diocese, has commenced at St Benedict's. One noticeable change is the use of the student electronic sign in sign out Kiosk located at the front desk. An important aspect of COMPASS is the need to be punctual. Rolls are marked at 9.00am and all late comers must utilise the kiosk. This means all students arriving late (leaving early) **MUST** present at the front desk to be signed in (out) I ask all families to pass this information on to anyone engaged to bring their child and / or pick them up.

If you know your child is going to be absent, please let the school know as early as possible. Otherwise an absentee notification will be generated.

**MESSAGES TO CHILDREN:** If there is a need to ring the school with an important message for your child, eg. to catch the bus or take a different line at dismissal please ring **BEFORE 2.00pm** as notes are sent to classes at the end of recess (2.00pm). If your circumstance is unexpected and a message needs to be sent to your child after 2.00pm the latest a message could be passed on is **2.45pm**. After that time it is difficult to be able to ensure the child gets the message in time as the school office is usually extremely busy at that time and cannot be left unattended while messages are delivered. In the interest of maintaining uninterrupted

teaching time **I ask that you do not go to your child's class with a message unless you have presented at the school office. Mrs Cotton will be able to sort most things out**

**PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:** A “*Meet and Greet*” evening for mums and dads will be held on **Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup>**. A Sausage Sizzle will start at 4.45pm and conclude at 5.30pm. At this time there will be an opportunity to receive a class information pack that outlines aspects of the year ahead. Items will include content overviews of the Key Learning Areas; special class requirements, structures and organization, suggestions for keeping in touch, behaviour expectations and homework. There will also be an opportunity to formally meet your child's teacher if you haven't already had the chance to do so. If at all possible please make alternate arrangements for your children.

**New families of Kindergarten 2020 are certainly welcome to the BBQ, however Mr Moore and Mrs Lojszczyk will not be available for a chat. A special Kindergarten Information Afternoon is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. More details will be forthcoming.**

Please remember that communication is a 2-way street and as parents you need to make the effort to reach out to clarify matters when necessary.

I would hope that speaking with your child's teacher about his/her progress is something you feel comfortable doing and I encourage you to do so regularly. However, I would ask that you do not approach teachers during class teaching time and while they are on playground duty. I also ask that you do not come to the staff room doors. If you would like to contact a teacher during the day, present at the office and Mrs Cotton will let them know you would like a moment. It is more preferable to contact your child's teacher by email or note and arrange a time that is suitable to both parties.

**Please note that teachers check their emails each afternoon before leaving school. They will respond as appropriate. If the matter needs attending to before this time (change of pick up time for example), ring Mrs Cotton or send a note addressed to your child's teacher.**

To assist with student well-being, the school executive has specific roles and responsibilities. Ongoing concerns regarding children in the Infants classes (K-Yr 2) should be directed to Miss Collins, the school's Religious Education Coordinator and for matters relating to children in the Primary classes (Yr 3-6) should be directed to Mr Bailey the school's Primary Coordinator. Mr McCosker, the school's Assistant Principal will have responsibility for the Reflection Room and matters specifically relating to ongoing behavioural issues. Mrs Stephen, the school's Learning Support Teacher is also available and has wonderful resources for supporting you, your child and the classroom teacher in dealing with matters impacting on the teaching and learning process, behavioural and socialisation issues.”

**The first point of call with any class related issue is the classroom teacher. All other complaints and grievances should be directed to the appropriate member of the School Executive.**

#### **SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL:**

The school carpark is closed from 8.40am until 9.15am and from 2.30pm until 3.15pm. The school carpark is far too small for us to allow parents to use it to drop off or pick up children. In addition and far more importantly it is an entry point for children and families and moving cars create a safety issue. It is only for the use of staff and services. Parents working on canteen and when picking up sick children are also able to use it, otherwise -

#### **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE CARPARK.**

I would like to inform new parents and remind returning parents that parking on grass verges, median strips, across driveways and in no parking, no stopping and no standing zones is illegal and dangerous to the children. I make particular mention of the signs in Durham Drive. Children's Crossings are part-time crossings which operate just before and after school hours. They are highlighted by red flags with the words 'CHILDREN CROSSING' on them. When the flags are displayed you must slow down and STOP at the stop line if a pedestrian or Supervisor is on or entering the crossing. **MOTORISTS MUST NOT PROCEED UNTIL ALL PEDESTRIANS ARE OFF THE CROSSING.** When the flags are NOT displayed, it is not a crossing. A NO STOPPING sign means that in the area in the direction of the arrow you must not stand

(stop/park) your vehicle, at the times shown on the sign. The NO PARKING sign allows drivers enough time to let their children out of the car in the morning and to gather them in the afternoon. Parking rangers frequently visit to check the legality of parent parking habits and you will be fined for parking illegally.

I therefore ask parents to park legally and safely in the streets surrounding the school, this includes not parking across our neighbours driveways. The entrance road to the carpark is not to be used as a drop off point and to use the pedestrian signals to cross the road. All drivers are reminded of the importance of patience. Bus Zone signs means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus. Hours of operation may apply to some signs. This means restrictions apply for those times only.

Parents are reminded that children who are picked by their parents in the afternoon only leave the playground if they walk out with you. Children whose parents aren't there on time wait on the green seat outside the staff room. Parents are asked to remind their children not to move away from the afternoon duty teacher unless they can actually see you. Parents are asked not to take children of an afternoon unless they are specifically asked by that child's parent and that child's parent has contacted the school advising them of the change to usual afternoon procedure. **Taking a child home, even just into the car park, when you think they need your help, because you are a neighbour or you are a close friend IS NOT A GOOD IDEA!**

**At all times parents should be setting a good example**, use the pedestrian crossing and lights appropriately and not to call their child across the road, please get out of the car, walk across the road and walk with your child. This is of particular importance to families that pick up children from Durham Drive and Suttor Streets. **At dismissal time, parents are asked to be clearly visible to teachers and your children. Children are not to move off unless they can see you.**

**In the interest of student safety and protection of valuables, the riding of and / or bringing of skateboards to school is not permitted and the riding of and / or bringing of scooters is strongly discouraged. If your child rides a bike to school, ensure they know the road rules as they apply to bicycle riders and have a bike in roadworthy condition.** This includes having a working bell. From time to time, it is advisable to check to see if they are putting what they know into practice. Children should travel by the most direct route to and from school. I ask that parents of children that walk or ride to school discuss road safety and have a clearly defined route to and from school in place.

**Your child should know how they are getting home each day;** bus, walkers, parent pick-up or whether they are going to Oosh. Walkers and bike riders should have a set route to and from school. Once an afternoon routine is established and teachers get to know how your child usually gets home, alterations should be notified to your child's teacher. This would be a great assistance when your child isn't where they are supposed to be.

**Parents are asked to pass on this information to anyone who they may use to transport their children to and or from school.**

**COMPLAINTS and GRIEVANCES:** Staff make decisions every day and many are directly concerned with your children. Professional judgement, educational guidelines, school policies and experience are just some of the factors used to frame these decisions. However, what is consistent in all decisions is the genuine care the staff has for your children and the fact that they always have their best interest at heart; regardless of whether it is rewarding a positive action or giving a consequence to an inappropriate choice.

With that said I accept that not all decisions, although made with every good intention, are absolutely 100% correct and from time to time disagreements and conflict may arise which may result in complaints and grievances being expressed. **St Benedict's, like all schools – in fact most workplaces has a “Complaints and Grievance’ Policy.** In short, it outlines appropriate and acceptable procedures to express dissatisfaction, so that mutual respect and fairness are ensured and that the dignity of those involved is maintained. I stress that the office foyer is not the place to display anger and frustration. All matters should be dealt with in a calm manner and preferably in a quiet place.

**A copy of the “Complaints and Grievance’ Policy is available on the school website and by request**



The first point of call with any class related issue is the classroom teacher. All other complaints and grievances should be directed to a member of the School Executive.



# **PARENT TEACHER MEET AND GREET EVENING (FOR MUMS AND DADS)**

**Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>  
4.45pm Sausage Sizzle  
5.30pm Welcome by Principal  
& Meet Your Child's Teacher**

**To assist with organisation it would be helpful if alternative arrangements could be made for your children. If it is an absolute necessity to bring them, please do so.**

**It would also be helpful for catering purposes if you could let your child's teacher know if you intend to come along.**

*New families of Kindergarten 2020 are certainly welcome to the BBQ, however Mr Moore and Mrs Lojczyk will not be available for a chat. A special Kindergarten Information Afternoon is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25. More details will be forthcoming.*

**SCHOOL FEES:** The Catholic Schools depend upon the continued reliability of parents in the matter of prompt payment of fees for their survival.

A separate one off account for Text Books is sent home in Term 1. Individual grade costs in 2020 are: - KINDY - \$40.00, YEAR 1- \$25.00, YEAR 2 - \$40.00, YEAR 3 – \$55.00, YEAR 4 - \$55.00, YEAR 5 - \$55.00 and YEAR 6 - \$40.00 This fee is generally payable before Text Books are issued.

A School Fee Account is sent home to parents early in each term for payment as soon as possible.

2020 Tuition Fees are:	Per Year	Per Term	Per Week
1 Child Family	\$ 1275.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 42.50
2 Child Family	\$ 2295.00	\$ 765.00	\$ 76.50
3 Child Family	\$ 3060.00	\$1020.00	\$102.00
4 Child Family	\$ 3060.00	\$1020.00	\$102.00
5+ Child Family	\$ 3187.50	\$1062.50	\$106.25

**NB:-At St Benedict's School Fees are billed over 3 terms (30 weeks). The fees and levies outlined below are in addition to the above tuition fee schedule.**

A Family Discount Information Sheet has been sent home. It was made clear that all families returning to St Benedict's in 2020 were required to fill in this form and return to the School Office by a given date. Failure to return this form could result in families who might otherwise be entitled to a discount missing out. If you are unsure if you have completed this form, contact Mrs Cotton immediately.

In the main, children are supplied with the necessities for normal school work. These are covered by the **Resource Fee**, which is added to the account for school fees. This fee covers the initial supply of consumable items such as writing books, pencils and pens etc and the ongoing costs of photocopy paper and art/craft materials. In 2020, the Resource Fee is \$186.00 per child. The **Technology Fee** in 2020; which assists with the maintenance and replacement of hardware, purchase and renewal of software and payment of licensing, is \$96.00 per family. The Technology Fee assists the school invest in new and maintain existing infrastructure, purchase new and update existing licences and assists the purchase of new hardware and funding the cyclic replacement of hardware. The **Maintenance Fee** in 2020; which assists with the maintenance of the school grounds and minor repair work, is \$50.00 per family. The **Diocesan Family and School Building Levy (DF&SBL)**, is used to finance capital works in schools and the establishment of new schools. In 2020 the DF&SBL is \$1250.00 per family per year and is payable to the school your eldest child attends. Since 2017, a voluntary annual contribution per family is being sought as a Diocesan Pastoral Contribution. In 2020 the contribution is \$300.00 (\$100 per term). Details of the initiatives this contribution will support is available from the office.

School Fees may be paid either by cash, cheque, credit card, eftpos, Bpay or Direct Debit and accounts need to be paid within 30 days of receipt of Fee Statements, unless arrangements are made with the Principal. Direct Debit forms are available from the school office. You are reminded that **fee arrangements and concessions must be renegotiated annually** and parents must contact the Principal so that agreements can be finalised.

During the year the school may invite educational shows to the school. These are considered of educational value. Parents may also be asked for money to cover the cost of excursions and sporting days. When educational shows, excursions or sports days are organised the school is mindful of placing extra financial burden on top of the fees outlined.

Parents who find themselves in difficulties with the payment of fees are asked to make an appointment with the Principal for a confidential discussion on the matter. A Health Care Card entitles parents to a tuition fee concession. If you have a **Family Health Care Card** please contact Jan in the Office for an Application for HCC concession. As with any Fee Agreement these need to be renewed each year.



**CHILD PROTECTION LEGISLATION:** The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an absolute and abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children. As a parent sending your child or children to a Diocesan school, you should be aware of your rights and obligations in protecting your child and all children in our schools.

### **The Children and Young Person's (Care and Protection) Act 1998**

In NSW we are able to report certain information to Family and Community Services (FaCs). If we are concerned for one or more of the children in the school, we can discuss our concerns with a teacher, Assistant Principal or Principal. We can report our concerns to the FaCS Child Protection Helpline (Ph. 133 627, 24 hrs/7 days) if we have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child or young person is at risk of significant harm and our concerns are current. Risk of significant harm may occur from a single act or omission or to a series of acts or omissions.

### **Part 3A of the Ombudsman Act 1974**

Part 3A Ombudsman Act 1974, defines Diocesan schools as a 'designated non-government agency' and as such we must have systems for preventing, reporting (to the Ombudsman) and investigating reportable conduct.

All staff and volunteers in Diocesan schools fall within the scope of Part 3A and may be investigated for alleged 'reportable conduct' which includes sexual offences, misconduct, assault, ill-treatment, neglect and behaviour that causes psychological harm to children.

Zimmerman Services is the Diocese's specialist child protection service who works with the Ombudsman to ensure the Diocese meets its obligations under Part 3A.

### **The Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012**

Under this legislation people who work in a paid or volunteer capacity in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle are required by law to have a Working with Children Check Clearance. This 'Clearance' can be obtained from applying online at [check@kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au](mailto:check@kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au).

As a parent, if you learn about a staff member or a volunteer working in the school without a Clearance, you should talk with the Principal or Assistant Principal as soon as possible. If you believe that nothing is being done about your concerns you can contact Zimmerman Services directly (Ph. 4979 1390 Mon-Fri 08:30 to 5pm).

### **Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Reporting Policy**

As a parent you can report any concerns you have for a student, or group of students, to our principal, assistant principal or directly to Zimmerman Services (Ph. 4979 1390 Mon-Fri 08:30 to 5pm). The Diocese's reporting policy and procedures are available to everyone on the Diocesan website:

[Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Reporting Child Protection Concerns](#)

As parents you are entitled to contact Zimmerman Services directly about any concerns we have about the safety, welfare or wellbeing of a child or if you are concerned that the school isn't addressing allegations of reportable conduct or abuse. (Ph. 4979 1390 Mon-Fri, 08:30 to 5pm).

You should have received, contact the School Office immediately if you have not, information about the School Community Code of Conduct and Conditions of Enrolment. Upon acceptance of enrolment and as a condition of continuing enrolment in our Catholic schools, all members of the school community are bound by this Code of Conduct. The School Community Code of Conduct was developed to reinforce rights and responsibilities for students, parents and volunteers within our school communities. Staff are bound by the Catholic Schools Office Code of Conduct. Please read, sign and return the Conditions of Enrolment Declaration immediately.

**MOBILE PHONES:** Unless your child has a specific need, **mobile phones should not be brought to school.** If there is a good reason please put your request to me in writing. Your children should be clear in that the phone should not be taken out of their bag unless needed and it is not a good idea to tell others you have it at school. Naturally the school takes no responsibility for the care and safe keeping of mobile phones brought to school.

**ANAPHYLAXIS:** there are a number of students at St Benedict's who have life threatening anaphylactic allergic reactions to all nuts And peanut products. Families are asked NOT to end send peanut butter, Nutella, sesame seeds. loose nuts, muesli, nut chocolate bars or any products containing any type of nut to school, The children are encouraged Not to share food at school.



**MEDICATION:** All medication is to be brought to the office immediately on arrival at school and not left in school bags. Any child needing medicine at school requires a Dispensing Medication Form which available at the office. . Parents are responsible for providing Action Plans for health related matters.



Please be advised that the enclosed school grounds of

**St Benedict's is a DOG FREE AREA**

**QKR:** Everyone should have received a notification to change existing details. Canteen orders are only taken using the **QKR** app. Details about QKR is included with this newsletter and from the office.



**VOLUNTEERS:** Volunteers are essential and highly valued in any school community. Volunteers enrich the quality of life for our students and their families and are in turn, enriched by their experiences.

Volunteers in schools in the Maitland Newcastle Diocese need to participate in an **Induction Process**. Consequently people who wish to be a volunteer must contact the office for details of the induction Process. In the meantime, if you have not applied for a Working With Children's Check, a requirement of volunteering at St Benedict's, please do so ASAP.

The Induction Process is an important as aspect of volunteering and I hope it is not too much of an inconvenience.

**SCHOOL BANKING:** This year the school Student Banking day will be every Friday. Bank books with deposits may be sent into school any day before Friday. If you would like your child to begin banking with the Catholic Development Fund please contact the Office for an application form. Direct all enquiries to Jan in the office.

**CLOTHING POOL:** There is a good selection of pre-loved uniforms in the Clothing Pool in most sizes. Please see Jan in the Office if you need anything.

**CRUNCH & SIP:** Crunch & Sip breaks will continue this year. **It would greatly help if fruit could be sent to school in easy to manage, peeled if necessary, pieces.** In an effort to promote vegetables, every Wednesday will be known as **Vege Wednesdee**. As an alternative to fruit, send along a vegetable snack

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The EDGE-U-CATOR will be sent, usually on a Monday, via the COMPASS app. I ask you to take the time to read it. From time to time hard copy notes are sent home that require a response. It is important that you respond as quickly as possible. I ask you read Newsletters carefully and to check your child's bag regularly. Better still, have your child in a routine of giving notes to you as soon as they arrive home. It is important that you respond to notes even if the answer is NO. The newsletter can also be found on the school website. [www.edgeworth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.edgeworth.catholic.edu.au)

St Benedict's is a wonderful school, to ensure that it stays that way and to make it even better we place great emphasis on four (4) things.

- 1) Wear the correct school uniform and do so with pride.
- 2) Come to school everyday with an attitude to learn and do your best.
- 3) Show respect and care for each other.
- 4) Take responsibility for your choices.

**May I take this opportunity to make it very clear that the parents and friends of St Benedict's are welcome to attend and be part of any activity planned. You do not need a special invitation to come along and be part of whatever we do.**

The **Parent Information Booklet** available on the school website and in the school foyer is an extremely useful document as it provides details of many aspects of school life at St Benedict's.

If at any time a matter needs clarification or if you feel you are not being adequately informed about what is happening at school, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher, usually the first point of contact, or a member of the school executive.

Finally to all our families, whether you are new or returning to St Benedict's, teachers and children; I hope 2020 is a special year and that all your hopes and aspirations come true.

With Every Good Wish,  
Mark Hornby-Howell  
Principal

The Term 1 Planner is included with this newsletter.



Feb. 6 ~ First Day Kindergarten class of 2019  
Feb. 7 ~ COMPASS test email  
Feb. 7 ~ Yr 3-6 Swimming Carnival  
Feb. 10 ~ School Photos  
          ~ P&F Meeting. School Library. 7pm. All welcome.  
Feb. 13~ Opening School Mass 9.45am  
Feb. 20 ~ Meet & Greet for mums and dads  
          4.45pm – 5.30pm BBQ 5.30pm Chat with teachers  
March 9 ~ P&F Meeting. School Library. 7pm. All  
welcome.



Please return

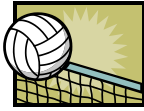
- The School Photo order form.  
NB Photos can be ordered online at [www.newcastleschoolportraits.com](http://www.newcastleschoolportraits.com)
  - St Benedict's Primary School Code 194000
- The 2020 Family Discount and Diocesan Pastoral Contribution Form.
- The blue Information Update Form. It is vital that this form is **returned as soon as possible** as it provides a contact point in cases of emergency. **Equally important is informing the school immediately of any change of circumstance.**
- The white Cybersafety User Agreement.

Please create your COMPASS account and download the COMPASS app.

Newsletters can only be accessed via the COMPASS app and the school website.

[www.edgeworth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.edgeworth.catholic.edu.au)

## SPORT UPDATE



**GIFTED AND/OR TALENTED SPORTS PEOPLE:** Trials for the Lakes Region in the Winter Sports of Rugby League (boys), Rugby Union (boys), Netball (girls), Australian Rules (boys), Hockey (boys and girls), Touch (boys and girls) and Soccer (boys and girls) will take place this term. Children need to nominate to be eligible to trial.

If you consider your child is **gifted and/or talented** in one of the above sports, you are invited to submit a written expression of interest before next Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. The expression of interest should outline recent achievements and preferred position(s) if applicable to the nominated sport. I ask you to think carefully before nominating your child, especially in regard to the associated costs and commitment to transport if successful in gaining selection to represent at higher levels. Also, keep in mind that children can be embarrassed if they do not have the ability to compete at this level.

School nominations for each sport is limited and I will make final decisions regarding final school nominations. As terms are "Open Age", students from senior classes are usually the first selected. If you have any enquiries about the above information please do not hesitate to contact me.



## Library News

**Teacher Librarian lessons** begin this week. Library lessons will incorporate ICT skills utilizing the computer lab and integrating each class, Semester 1 History topics and Semester 2 Geography topics. There will also be a focus on literature in an attempt to promote recreational reading on a regular basis.

*Ainara Mateos*  
Teacher Librarian

## P & F NEWS

### Welcome to the start of the 2020 school year!

The P&F Executive Committee for this year are Liz McGovern, Mandie Cotton-Young and Skye Watson. We are Mums of children in Year Two and we are very excited about helping to create an amazing year for all of the children at St Benedict's.

We would love to invite you all to our first P&F meeting for 2020. It is on Monday 10th February at 7pm in the library. Please come along to meet the committee. At this meeting we will be getting to know each other and will discuss ideas and suggestions for the year ahead. Everyone is welcome to come along. We look forward to seeing you there!

**This term we have a few fundraising initiatives happening. Battle of the Bottles, 5 cent Fundraiser, Hot Cross Bun Drive and an Easter raffle.**

The **Battle of the Bottles** bins are located outside the Office and in the Cola. Please put your recyclable bottles and cans in the bins provided. Please see Flyer at the end of this newsletter.

**Hot Cross Bun Drive.** Information and order forms will be sent home shortly.

The buckets for the **5c fundraiser** are now in each classroom ready to collect your 5c pieces and will remain there until the end of Term 1. Please be sure to send in your 5c pieces.

We will be putting a call out for **Easter Egg Raffle** donations within the coming weeks, so please keep an eye out for that, and raffle tickets will be going home later in the Term also.

We appreciate all the volunteers at our school, and are always ready to welcome new volunteers on board. If you are willing to help out in any capacity within our school, whether it be for an hour, or a whole day, please be sure to call in and see Mrs Cotton in the office for more information.

## **Canteen:**

Our canteen has re-opened this week.

Please note that it is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during each school term. If for any reason the canteen needs to be closed on a day it is normally open we will do our very best to give as much notice as possible. The current menu is attached to this newsletter.

February 26th marks the beginning of Lent. Please be aware that on Ash Wednesday and each Friday during Lent, all meat products will not be available. This includes meat pies, ham, sausage rolls, and spaghetti bolognese. Fish cocktails and chicken items will still be available during this time. Lent will conclude on Friday 10th April (Good Friday).

We have purchased two new Apple slinky machines. Please be sure to send your child's apple in a container or clip lock bag clearly marked with their name and class on the bag, and remind your child to place their apple in the lunch order baskets upon arrival at school. The apples will be ready to collect from the canteen at fruit break.

***Our First P&F Meeting for 2020 is Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
Meetings commence at 7pm in the school Library.  
Everyone is most welcome to attend***



### **Ash Wednesday – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Please note – that on both Ash Wednesday and ALL Fridays during lent there will be no meat products sold in the canteen. These include Ham, Pies, Sausage Rolls, Lasagna/ Spag Bol. Chicken and fish products are still available.

**The canteen will be closed on Tuesday's and Thursday and as otherwise notified.**

**Re-usable Lunch Bags** can be purchased from the office for **\$8.50**

**Helpers Needed :** We need help in the Canteen on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March (2 people) and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. If you are able to help please contact Jan in the Office.

**TUCKSHOP ROSTER:**

**MONDAY**

**3.2.18**

A.Sullivan

C.Becus

**10.2.18**

R.Loveday

A.Wolloff

**TUESDAY**

**4.2.18**

**CLOSED**

**11.2.18**

**CLOSED**

**WEDNESDAY**

**5.2.18**

M.Bennett

M.Hawkins

**12.2.18**

R.Budden

J.Coles

**THURSDAY**

**6.2.18**

**CLOSED**

**13.2.18**

**CLOSED**

**FRIDAY**

**7.2.18**

**Swimming**

**Carnival**

**14. 2.18**

D.Daley

F.McPherson

J.Crockett

**Please Note**

\* If you are unable to come on your rostered day you need to make a swap or arrange a replacement with someone from the list attached to your Term 1 Roster. Please inform Mrs Cotton who will be replacing you.

\* Anyone wishing to add their names to the canteen roster will be very welcomed and names should be given to Mrs Cotton.

\* ONLY PERMANENT ROSTER CHANGES TO BE REFERRED TO MRS COTTON IN THE OFFICE. ANY OTHER CANTEEN BUSINESS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO MRS Liz McGOVERN 0411 271 253





## St. Benedict's Canteen Price List 2019

Hot Food	Price		Price
Large Pie	\$ 2.80	Pasta Bolognese	\$4.00
Sausage Roll	\$2.60	Fish Pieces	60c
Sweet Chilli Tenders	.70c		
Chicken Fingers	.50c		
Wraps	Price	Salad Bowls	Price
Chicken Finger Wrap – Lettuce & Mayo	\$5.20	Salad Bowl	\$6.00
Chicken Finger Salad Wrap	\$6.70	Salad Bowl - Ham	\$6.70
Chicken Meat Wrap – Lettuce & Mayo	\$5.10	Salad Bowl + Chicken Meat	\$6.70
Chicken Meat Salad Wrap	\$5.80	Salad Bowl + Chicken Fingers	\$6.80
Sweet Chilli Tender Wrap	\$6.70	Iceblocks	
Salad Wrap	\$4.60	Quelch Fruit Iceblocks	.50c
Ham Salad Wrap	\$5.80	Frozen Yogurt	\$1.50
Burgers		Juicies	\$1.00
Chicken Burger – Lettuce & Mayo	\$3.50	Moosies	\$1.00
Chicken Salad Burger	\$5.80	Fruit/Veggie	
Toasted Sandwiches		Apples	.60c
Toasted Cheese	\$2.60	Orange Cup	.60c
Toasted Ham & Cheese	\$3.00	Watermelon Cup	.60c
Toasted Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$3.30	Carrot Sticks & Hommus Dip	\$1.00
Toasted Chicken & Cheese	\$3.00	Carrot Sticks & French Onion Dip	\$1.00
Sandwiches		Celery Sticks & Hommus Dip	\$1.00
Vegemite	\$1.20	Celery Sticks & French Onion Dip	\$1.00
Vegemite & Cheese	\$1.50	Mixed Sticks & Hommus Dip	\$1.00
Cheese	\$1.30	Mixed Sticks & Hommus Dip	\$1.00
Cheese & Tomato	\$1.60	Drinks	
Cheese & Lettuce	\$1.60	Apple Juice	\$1.30
Egg & Lettuce	\$2.60	Apple Blackcurrant Juice	\$1.30
Ham	\$2.20	Orange Juice	\$1.30
Ham Salad	\$5.80	Plain Water	\$1.00
Chicken (meat)	\$3.50	Sparkling Watermelon Water	\$1.60
Chicken (meat) Salad	\$5.80	Sparkling Orange Passio Water	\$1.60
Salad	\$4.60	Sparkling Raspberry Water	\$1.60
		Sparkling Blackcurrant Water	\$1.60
		Chocolate Milk	\$2.20
		Strawberry Milk	\$2.20
Miscellaneous			
Tomato/BBQ/ Sweet&Sour Sauce	.30c		
Spoon/Fork	.10c		
Bag	.20c	Chips	
		Plain Salt Chips	\$1.20

**PLEASE NOTE:**

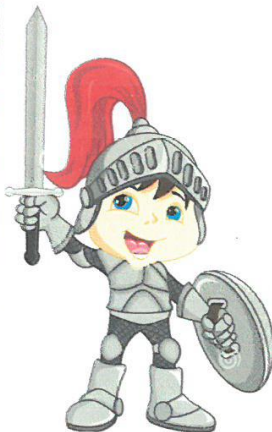
SALAD SANDWICH & WRAP CONTAIN: LETTUCE, TOMATO, CUCUMBER, BEETROOT, CARROT, CHEESE

SALAD BOWL CONTAINS: LETTUCE, TOMATO, CUCUMBER, BEETROOT, CORN, PINEAPPLE, CARROT, CHEESE & EGG

# BATTLE OF THE BOTTLES



We are also looking for sponsors so if you know of any businesses that would like to support your school please inquire at the office for a proposal letter.



**Hi Mums and Dads !!!**

**Our BATTLE OF THE BOTTLES fundraiser is on again.**

**Collection bins are located near the school office and library/cola so start bringing them in. kids please ask your Grandparents, Friends, Aunties and Uncles to save their bottles and cans as well. Each can and bottle returned goes towards the cost to upgrade our school facilities.**

**The competition is between Infants and Primary with the winning team receiving a movie afternoon in the hall with popcorn and slushie!!!**

**SO START BRINGING THEM IN !!!**



# TERM PLANNER - TERM 1 2020

	SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
1	26 Jan	27/1	28/1 Staff Return Commissioning Mass @ Holy Cross	29/1	30/1	31/1	1/2
2	2 Feb	3/2 Staff Meeting	4/2	5/2	6/2 Staff Meeting First Day 2020 Kindergarten	7/2 School Swimming Carnival	8/2
3	9/2	10/2 School Photos P&F	11/2 Brainstorm Incursion Called to Serve Mass for Staff @ 6.30pm	12/2	13/2 Regional Principals Retreat Back to School Mass 9.45am @ Holy Cross Capital Grant Team visit Staff Meeting	14/2 Regional Principals Retreat Director / Principals Day	15/2
4	16/2	17/2	18/2 Class Mass 5B	19/2	20/2 Staff Meeting Meet & Greet 5.30pm - Class Term updates home	21/2 AP Assembly Day	22/2
5	23/2	24/2 ½ Day Stage - Yr 2 / Yr 5&6 Staff Meeting	25/2 Class Mass 4K Kindergarten Info Afternoon	26/2 Ash Wednesday (4HS)	27/2 WHS Committee Meeting ½ Day Stage - K / Yr 1	28/2	29/2
6	1 March CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 8/3	2/3 Staff Meeting	3/3 Diocesan CSW Mass 11am	4/3	5/3 PC DAY	6/3 School CSW Activities	7/3
7	8/3	9/3 Morning Assembly 2S Staff Meeting P&F	10/3 A Class Mass 3R	11/3	12/3	13/3	14/3
8	15/3 Weil Being Week	16/3 Morning Assembly 1C	17/3 "Getting Along" Day	18/3 REC Assembly Day Yr 6 Mass @ Westy	19/3 Mission Day Staff Meeting	20/3	21/3
9	22/3	23/3 Morning Assembly 1A	24/3 Class Mass 4HS	25/3	26/3 Staff Meeting	27/3	28/3
10	29/3	30/3 Staff Meeting	31/3 Class Mass 3Mc LNAP Collaboration Day - (Yr 2)	1/4 Term 1 Attitude & Work Habits Reports home	2/4 LNAP Collaboration Day (Yr 1)	3/4 LNAP Collaboration Day (K)	4/4
11	5 April Palm Sunday	6/4	7/4 Holy Week Liturgy (4K)	8/4	9/4 Easter Hat Parade	10/4 GOOD FRIDAY	11/4

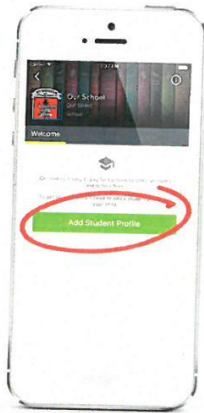




masterpass

## Add your children's details in Student Profiles

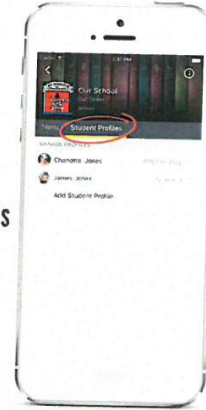
Select 'Add student profile'



Add each child's details



Manage each child's details in Student Profiles



## Order meals

Select a menu from our canteen



Tap the green box to view your receipt or to cancel an order



Select a date for a child and order a meal

Tap 'Repeat order' to copy all paid orders from one week to the next

Tap to change the date you are ordering for

Tap to change the child you are ordering for

Tap 'Checkout' then confirm and pay



## Making payments

Add up to 5 cards to your wallet



At checkout select which card to pay with.

Pay with any cards accepted by the school.

Once your payment is approved you can continue to the home page, or view your receipt.

