



# EDGEWORTH

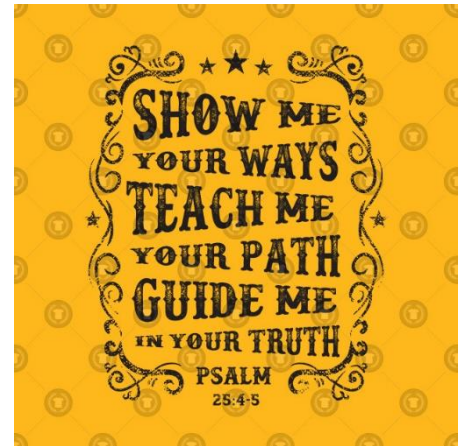
NEWSLETTER NO. 2

10.2.20

## *Beginning Of The School Year Mass*

Our Back to School Mass is this **THURSDAY** to be held at Holy Cross Church Glendale (30 Oakland St, Glendale) commencing at 9:45am. At this Mass we welcome our 2020 Kindergarten, newly enrolled students and newly appointed staff to Saint Benedict's Catholic Primary School. During the mass we will also commission our 2020 School Leaders and confirm our commitment to a new school year as members of our school community.

As always preparations for this very special and significant Mass in our school year commenced last year as I once again searched scripture passages for inspiration of a theme for this year. During this time I read Psalm 25 verses 4-5 and I realised in my heart that this would be our theme. What is better than to be reminded that we can turn to Jesus to show us the way throughout this coming year. Whether it be in our learning and our teaching or our interactions with others Jesus is the perfect role model for us all. So, throughout this year whenever you are faced with life's ups and downs turn to God to "Show me your ways, teach me your path, guide me in your truth." Psalm 25: 4-5.



As we look forward to this special event we ask the Lord to bless our coming endeavours:

*Lord, we ask for your help as we begin this new school year. Allow us to experience your presence in the many blessings you put before us. Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open our heart and mind to new friends and new community members. Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and the courage to accept new opportunities. Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that, with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue to grow in our faith. Help us to listen carefully to you as you teach us your way throughout this year. AMEN*

Yours in Faith  
*Miss Michelle Collins*  
(Religious Education Coordinator)

## 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.

## 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. Buses leave the school by 9.20am. It is important your child is at school on time. Bus travel is fully subsidized by the school. I look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate our new beginning together.*



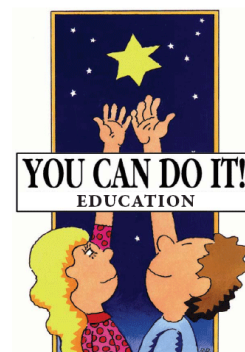
**KIDSMATTER:** St Benedict's is a KidsMatter Primary School! KidsMatter is the first national mental health, promotion and early intervention initiative specifically developed for Primary schools. It involves people who have significant influence on children's lives- parents, families, carers, teachers and community groups- in making a positive difference for children's mental health during this important developmental period.

Kidsmatter focuses on four key areas to improve student mental health and wellbeing:

1. A positive school community
2. Social and emotional learning for students
3. Parenting support and education
4. Early intervention for students experiencing mental health difficulties

If you would like to know more about KidsMatter at our school ask Mr McCosker, your child's teacher or visit the website at [www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary).

**AWARDS:** As a component of the school's involvement in the **Kidsmatter** programme, we use the Bennie Awards System as a method of providing immediate reinforcement of positive behaviour, both in the classroom and on the playground. Attaining various levels, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum will require the students to display behaviours across a variety of criteria or **Keys to Success**. These are: - Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence, Confidence and Resilience and each have its own indicators. The Keys to Success are the focus of the **You Can Do It** Programme.



- **Getting Along** means working well with my classmates, solving conflicts peacefully, being sensitive to the feelings of others, being respectful and helping make my community a better place to live and learn. Some examples of Getting Along include following school and classroom rules, showing respect for others, listening and not interrupting when someone else is speaking and helping others in need.
- **Organisation** means setting a goal to be successful, planning my time so that I'm not rushed, and having all my equipment ready. Examples of organised behaviour are having a neat desk and school bag so I can find everything, wearing correct school uniform and completing homework.

- **Persistence** means trying hard and not giving up when something feels like it's too difficult to do. Some examples of Persistent behaviour are continuing to try even when schoolwork is hard or when you think it's boring, not being distracted by others and always trying to your best.
- **Confidence** means feeling I can do it and believing that you can be successful at things you try. Confidence also means not being afraid to make mistakes or to try something new. Examples of Being Confident include raising my hand to answer a hard question sharing a new idea with my teacher, showing initiative and class or saying "hello" and talking to someone new.
- **Resilience** means knowing how to stop myself from getting extremely angry, upset, or worried when something "bad" happens. It means being able to calm down and feel better when I get very upset. Examples of Resilience include not getting too angry and lashing out when someone teases me or treats me unfairly or disrespectfully and not getting extremely worried or anxious when I don't understand things or make mistakes.

When a student receives 10 Bennies, they will be presented with a **Bronze Award**. When a student receives another 10 Bennies, 20 Bennies in total, they will be presented with a **Silver Award**. When a student receives another 20 Bennies, 40 Bennies in total, they will be presented with a **Gold Award**. When a student receives another 10 Bennies, 50 Bennies in total, they will be presented with a **Platinum Award**. When a student receives another 10 Bennies, 60 Bennies in total, they will be presented with a **Diamond Award**.

In Term 1, before actual Bennie Awards kick in there will be a focus on each Key. Week 2 & 3 Getting Along, Wk 4 Organisation, Wk 5 Confidence, Wk 6 Resilience and Wk 7 Persistence.

The KLA Award system will also continue this year. Each term there will be 2 Merit Awards for each KLA presented as follows:- Each term – RE, Term 1- Mathematics, Term 2- English & History, Term 3- Creative Arts & Geography and Term 4- Science & Technology & PDHPE.

The children will be presented with these awards at the Monday morning assembly and be acknowledged in the school newsletter. For more information contact your child's teacher.

**GETTING ALONG Awards:** Caleb Isaac 3Red Emma Woodward 3Red Savannah Wolloff 3Black Niya Peterson 3Black Sasa Wilks 4Black Eli Anderson 4Black Cyrus Bailey 1Red Charlotte Grant 1Red Jack Lee 4Red Abbey Hancock 4Red Evie White 1Black Jonah Connelly 1Black Liam Hingst 2Black Finn Sharwood 2B Aditya Modi 2Red Charli Howarth 2Red Mia Power 6Black Jaxan Cambridge 6Black

**READIT Home Reading Program:** Information has been sent home about the programme on COMPASS. I ask all families once again to be involved in this program. What a wonderful gift is learning to read. Please encourage your child to read and make it part of their nightly routine. Home reading diaries have been sent home. Support your children in their reading by reading to them or listening to them and filling out the diary daily!

**SCHOOL PHOTOS:** These were taken today. Any orders need to be sent directly to Newcastle School Portraits. The information you require can be found on the envelopes already sent home. Special photos; captains, mini vinnies, Whole of Kindergarten etc can be ordered online using the school code 201001. If you have an issue, contact the Newcastle School Portrait Team on 49654114.

**PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:** As previously notified, a “*Meet and Greet*” evening for mums and dads will be held on **Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup>**. A BBQ 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 possible please make alternate arrangements for your children.

*Community ~ welcoming, working together, challenging*

**SCHOOL FEES:** You are reminded that **all existing fee arrangements and concessions must be renegotiated annually** and parents must contact the Principal so that agreements can be finalised. Term 1 School Fee accounts are being processed and it would be appreciated if any discussions regarding possible concessions and or alterations be arranged on or before this Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to those families that have already contacted me. Family Discount Forms need to be returned immediately.

Text Book accounts will be sent out this week and you are asked to pay these fees immediately.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** 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, usually in Week 1 Term 1, of consumable items such as writing books, pencils and pens etc and the ongoing costs of photocopy paper and art/craft materials.

**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.

**COMPASS:** COMPASS is the new Diocesan student information, parent communication and finance system. Please create your COMPASS account and 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. For any COMPASS related issues contact Mr Moore.

**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 aspect of volunteering and I hope it is not too much of an inconvenience.

**SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL:** A number of important matters were raised in last week’s EDGE U CATOR. I would like to revisit two (2) of them. Firstly, the school carpark is closed from 8.40am til 9.15am and from 2.30pm til 3.15pm. The school carpark is far too small for us to allow parents to use it to drop off or pick up children. 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. Secondly, parents are asked to pass on the information outlined in the newsletter to anyone who they may use to transport their children to and or from school.



**LIVE LIFE WELL @ SCHOOL:** As part of the Live Life Well @ School Program, each Wednesday will be 'Vege Wednesdee' where we ask the children to bring vegetables to eat during our Crunch and Sip time. From time to time there will be a series of information pamphlets in the newsletter. These pamphlets discuss healthy lifestyle choices for children at school and at home. Please take the time to read them. For further information about the program contact Mr Moore the school's Live Life Well Coordinator

**VISITORS:** All visitors, including reading helpers, library helpers and canteen workers need to sign in and out at the kiosk situated in the school foyer, take a Visitors Badge and wear it. As mentioned last week, 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 and arrange a time that is suitable to both parties. I also ask that you do not go to your child's class with a message unless you have presented at the Office. Mrs Cotton will, in most cases, be able to sort most things out

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.

With Every Good Wish,  
Mark Hornby-Howell  
Principal

## **SPORT UPDATE**



### **St Benedict's Swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to all children for their enthusiastic efforts, great sportsmanship and outstanding behaviour during last Friday's carnival at Coughlan's Swimming Centre. It was great to see so many children "having a go" and pushing themselves to achieve their personal best. Many thanks to our parent helpers and for those who came to support their children. A special mention must go to Ms Laczkowski who not only helped Mrs Stewart with 'life saving' duties, but also claimed victory in the Staff v Year Six freestyle challenge race.

Congratulations to **Dobell** for winning the carnival for the second year in a row, in the closest finish for years. Place ribbons and Age Champion trophies will be presented in the near future. Names of the children who made the St Benedict's Swimming Team for the Lakes Regional Carnival on Monday 17th February at Lambton Pool, will be displayed on the notice board outside the staffroom. Information and permission notes for selected children will also be handed out.

**Please note that this year, the Lakes Region Sports Committee decided that qualifying times will be used for regional selection.** This means that some children who were placed in our school carnival may not be selected for the Regional Carnival.

#### **Final Points Score**

Dobell - 350   Bradman - 330   Freeman - 295   Chisholm - 240

Kind regards,  
Wayne Bailey (Primary Coordinator)

# **PASTORAL CARE WORKER**

Mrs Deanne March has been appointed as the school's Pastoral Care Worker. For 25 years Deanne worked as an Early Childhood Educator and often found herself supporting parents with different issues that they had.

Being a young mother and someone with compassion, Deanne became interested in working with families and not just the children. Deanne began as a Parent Educator with Kidsafe and was on a variety of committees and advocacy groups in the Newcastle area. She spent the last 3 years working at Mums' Cottage at Holmesville, working as a Pastoral Care Worker as well as organising fund raising and community events, and continuing her love of supporting parents, by becoming a registered facilitator in courses such as 1,2,3, Magic, Engaging Adolescents and Circle of security.

Deanne has said that being able to grow and continue this work at St Benedict's has truly been a blessing.

## **ROLE STATEMENT**

### **Scripture Imperative**

*"Speak up for the people who cannot speak for themselves.....Protect the rights of the poor and needy"*

Proverbs 31:8-10

### **Professional Imperative**

*"The heart of what we do is about passion and commitment. If passion comes to you from helping others find a way to make it happen again and again."* Jeffrey Kottler.

## **STUDENT WELLBEING**

- Providing the necessary practical, material and social assistance needed to live with dignity and security.
- Establishing a supportive network to help others cope with difficulties
- Providing home / hospital visitation during illness, crisis, isolation or bereavement
- Facilitating 1.2.3 Magic and Engaging Adolescents programs
- Working with Sugarloaf Parish Mini Vinnies
- Supporting the school's Sacramental, lunch club, craft and reading programs
- Facilitating student resilience, restorative justice and wellbeing programs

## **COUNSELLING**

- Providing personal, couple and/or family counselling and support
- Liaising with outside agencies, School Psychologist and Learning Support Teacher
- Assisting with court preparation and support
- Providing child advocacy for access visits and terms of contact
- Providing access supervision and reporting
- Providing mediation and conflict resolution

## **COMPANIONING**

- Validating each person's worth and value by being available when they require social/emotional support.
- Establishing a venue for others to have time apart
- Coordinating aspects of the school's Orientation program
- Liaising with local nursing home and arranging school visits
- Coordinating Seasons for Growth program

Deanne is available to work with students, parents and family groups. She works at St Benedicts on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and will liaise closely with the School Psychologist and Learning Support Teacher. If you need to contact Deanne, speak to Jan at the office



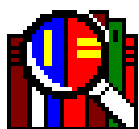
Please return

- 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 201001
- The 2020 Family Discount and Diocesan Pastoral Contribution Form. (sent home Dec 2019)
- 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.edgewrth.mn.catholic.edu.au](http://www.edgewrth.mn.catholic.edu.au)



# Book Club News

*Issue 1, 2020 out now*

*'Thank you' to everyone who put orders in from any of the Book Club issues during 2019. As a result of the purchases you made, the school received hundreds of dollars worth of books of our own choosing for free. We look forward to your continuing support this year.*

*Students received the February issue of Book Club last week. Orders should be placed on-line through LOOP or returned to school by **Monday, 17 February, 2020**. If you have an enquiry you may call into the library on any Wednesday or Thursday. Additional order forms are available from the Front Office.*

Book Club provides a fun and convenient way of bringing the best in children's literature into your home. It's packed full of exciting books from best-selling authors, popular titles and series that kids love, as well as products and books that make perfect gifts for younger siblings who may not be at school yet.

Ordering from Book Club is easy—simply go online ([scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://scholastic.com.au/LOOP)) and place your order and then Scholastic will take care of the rest. Before you know it, your child will have a lovely surprise to take home once their order gets delivered to St Benedict's.

When ordering from Book Club, you are not only helping your children, but you are also helping your school—20% of your spend goes back to St Benedict's in valuable Scholastic Rewards, which are used to buy educational resources.

For more information about Scholastic and Book Club, visit [www.scholastic.com.au](http://www.scholastic.com.au)

**MRS PAM NICOLAIDIS**

Book Club Co-ordinator and Library Assistant

## P & F NEWS

***Our First P&F Meeting for 2020 is tonight (Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February)***

***Meetings commence at 7pm in the school Library.***

***Everyone is most welcome to attend***

### **BACK IN TERM 1!!! 2020**

#### **BATTLE OF THE BOTTLES- INFANTS vs PRIMARY.**

We have bright YELLOW bins for our cans and bottles (please no rubbish or other recyclable items) Each bin has their label of PRIMARY and INFANTS, there is also a list of acceptable and no accepted list near the bins and on the schools facebook page.



We will also be calling on businesses to become sponsors for our Battle of the Bottles. For more information please see Mrs Cotton.

**Tally so far :**      *Infants*      \$ 80.03                      *Primary*              \$ 50.80

***Keep saving your recyclable battles and cans. Who will win????***



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.

*Bakers Delight*  
We're for real.



### **HOT CROSS BUN DRIVE**

This year, in conjunction with Bakers Delight Cardiff, we are hosting a Hot Cross Bun drive to raise some **dough** to upgrade our school facilities.

**\$1.50 from every 6 pack of buns sold will be donated to our school.**

The buns are the same price as sold at Bakers Delight, \$7.50 for 6.

**ORDER FORMS TO BE SENT HOME THIS WEEK SO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THEM IN YOUR CHILDREN'S BAGS**



### **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.

### **TUCKSHOP ROSTER:**

*We need a Canteen Helper on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. If you are able to help please let Jan in the Office know.*

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
<b>10.2.20</b> R.Loveday A.Wolloff	<b>11.2.20</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>12.2.20</b> R.Budden J.Coles	<b>13.2.20</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>14. 2.20</b> D.Daley F.McPherson J.Crockett
<b>17.2.20</b> E.Wood F.McPherson	<b>18.2.20</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>19.2.20</b> J.Ferguson A.Ferguson	<b>20.2.20</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>21.2.20</b> N.Fitzhenry J.Johnson K.Mate

### **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.



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

**Thursssday, 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 Lojszczyk will not be available for a chat. A special Kindergarten Information Afternoon is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25. More details will be forthcoming.*



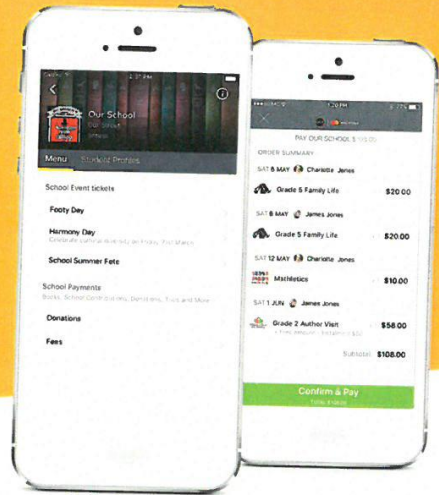
masterpass

For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

Introducing Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

With Qkr you can:

- Order and pay for your child's lunches, reducing the need to bring cash to school;
- Pay for a variety of school items;
- See your receipts on the app and get them sent by email if required.



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

### Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



### Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

### Step 3 Find our school

Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10kms of the school, or search for our school by name.

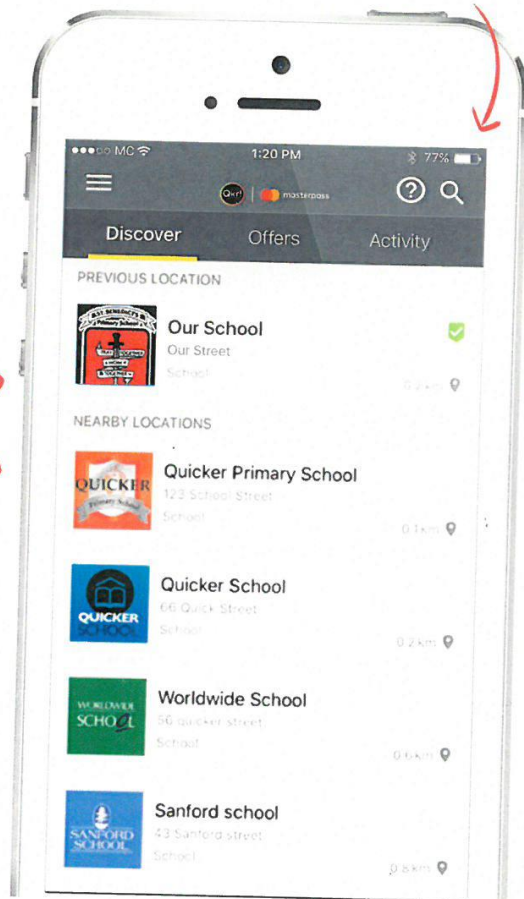
### Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

Search for our school name

If you have made a purchase you can select our school from 'Previous Location'

If you're within 10 kms of the school, you can select our school from 'Nearby Locations'

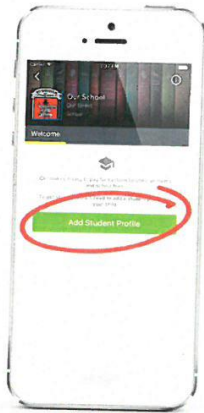




masterpass

## Add your children's details in Student Profiles

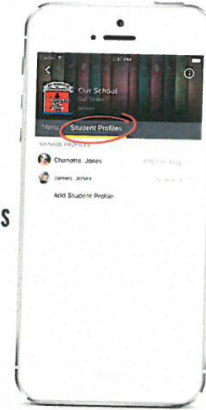
Select 'Add student profile'



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.