



St Benedict's Catholic College Newsletter

Vol 5, Issue 1 3 February 2015

Dear Parents

A very warm welcome back to St. Benedict's for all our families but a particularly special welcome for the 170 new families who have joined us this year. It was an uplifting sight seeing our Cloister area filled with nearly 550 students on the first day. It was probably just as amazing seeing students wearing jumpers in January as we battled the rain and cold and traffic management issues!

I also welcome our new staff for this year. As you would be aware, demand for teaching positions at the College is always high and we were blessed with the quality and experience of the applicants. Welcome to:

Mr. Michael Turton, Director of Staff and Student Wellbeing, PDHPE

Mrs. Peta Holmes, Coordinator of Learning Support, HSIE

Mr. Anthony McAteer, Yr 7 Coordinator, HSIE

Mrs. Jodie Hatton, English

Mrs. Joanne Baker, English

Mrs. Lisa Scott, Mathematics

Ms. Phuong Do, Mathematics

Mrs. Catherine Whiter, Science

Mrs. Christy Smith, TAS

Mr Matthew Andruschko, TAS

Ms. Bernadette Adams, HSIE

Mrs. Karen McFarlane, School Support Officer, Hospitality

Mr. Matthew McGregor, School Support Officer, Learning.

Mrs. Susan Young, School Support Officer, Administration.

Mrs. Alexis Dailey (Science) and Ms. Amanda Micallef (PDHPE) will be sharing roles one day a week with Mrs. Hayden and Mrs. Pereira respectively.

Mrs. Nancy Payne will be continuing as Careers and Pathways advisor and will be available to Years 10 and 11 students on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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Thank you to all parents for their patience last week and into this week as the car park reached its completion. It was unfortunate that the rain came as we prepared to lay the bitumen but, as they say, it was character building. The additional 100 spots are very welcome for all parents and staff and we will be changing a number of morning and afternoon arrangements so please read the newsletter carefully, join our Twitter account and/or download the Skoolbag App for instant alerts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2015

February

Wed 4	Laptop Rollout Evening
Thurs 5	Year 7 Bootcamp
Fri 6	Year 7 Bootcamp
Tues 10	Opening College Mass
Tues 17	Yr 7 Parents Welcome Soiree
Wed 18	Ash Wednesday
Sat 21	Working Bee
Mon 23	Dio. Boys Touch Footy
	Dio. Girls Soccer
Tues 24	P&F AGM 7pm @ College
Wed 25	College Swimming Carnival

March

Mon 2	Yr 7 2016 Information Evening
Fri 6	Staff Development Day—Pupil Free
Wed 11	Yr 9 Reflection Day
Thurs 12	Diocesan Swimming
Fri 13	Yr 10 Reflection Day
Wed 18	Vaccinations #1 Year 7
Fri 20	College Cross Country

April

Wed 1	Yrs 9 & 10 PASS Excursion
Thurs 2	Yrs 7 & 11 Transition Reports distributed
	Last day of Term 1



Prayer of St Benedict

Gracious and Holy Father
Give us wisdom to perceive you
Intelligence to understand you
Diligence to see you
Patience to wait for you
Eyes to behold you
A heart to meditate on you
And a life to proclaim you
Through the power of the
Spirit of Jesus Christ Our Lord
Amen

We are now starting the process of migrating many of our procedures to the permanent St Benedict's site. Some changes that will take place from Wednesday 4th February:

Student pick up and drop off.

Morning drop off will now take place outside Block B and parents will drive the loop around the car park and return to the exit. Please do not drop your child outside the temporary administration building, we will keep that free for St Justin's families. If your child is dropped to school **after** 8:10am they will have to report to the temporary administration building so that the official roll can be amended.

Afternoon Pick Up

Students will wait in the temporary "Shade Sails" area and a "Pick Up Zone" will operate adjacent. If you must park (which is strongly discouraged), then please use the new internal crossing along the new main path.

Students Waiting for Pick Up

The College does not offer an after-school care service. Supervision is only provided until 2:50pm when buses depart. If your child is waiting to be picked up with a sibling at St Justin's, a parent must arrive by 2:50 to collect the St Benedict's sibling. These students will also be asked to wait under the shade sails area.

Enclosed Land

The builders will be erecting new fencing along the roadway as a safety measure this week. Can we remind parents that under the Enclosed Lands Act, visitors to the College, including parents, must sign in if you are on school property. It is a matter of safety and protection for all children. Please wait outside fence areas and do not wander around the school looking for your child. The staff will ensure every child connects with a bus or other form of transport.

Wet Weather

On days where wet weather is forecast, the College strongly encourages a small fold-up umbrella or poncho/rain jacket be brought to school in your child's bag. It seems to thunderstorm or rain at exactly 2:30pm this time of year and it is a 430m walk from the Cloister area to the bus stop with little or no shelter.

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There are some exciting events in the next few weeks where parents can be involved in the life of the College. Flyers will be sent home advertising many of these. Dates for your Diary:

Opening College Mass: Tuesday 10th February at 9:15am in the Cloister. All parents welcome to come and celebrate the Eucharist with the College community.

College Annual Working Bee: Saturday 21st February from 6:30am-11am. Come and meet other parents, grab a bacon and egg roll and help us stay neat 'n tidy!

Year 7 Parents Welcome Soiree: Tuesday 17th February.

Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting: Tuesday 24th February

College Swimming Carnival: Wednesday 25th February.

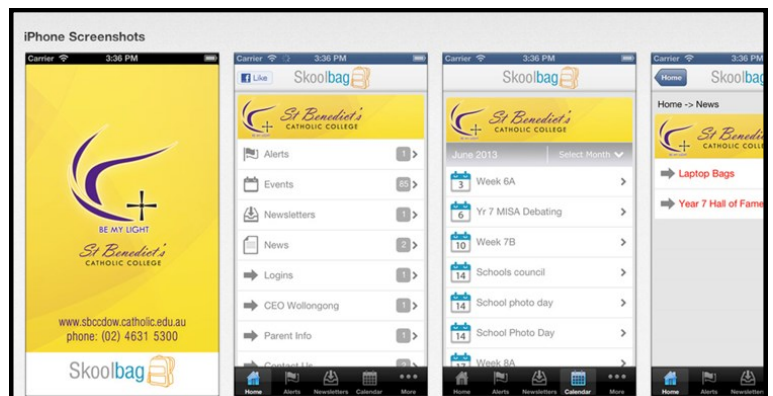
Bus Passes: don't panic! Students will have free bus travel for the first 2 weeks. Busabout and Interline passes will be sent to the school and will be distributed through your child's homeroom.

Michael Hanratty
Principal

St Benedict's Catholic College - Skoolbag App

Are you using the Skoolbag App? Many parents are making use of this valuable addition to our communication outlets. The St Benedict's Skoolbag App is available for iPhone and Android. This will provide links to the College calendars, coming events, newsletters and important notes and announcements. There is also the ability to notify us of Student Absences and of Changes to Address and phone number details.

You can download this **FREE** app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play site (for Android phones). Use the search: **Skoolbag St Benedict** and download.



HATS

Tuesday Sport and PDHPE Practical Lessons

Students are reminded that they must have all necessary equipment for Tuesday Sport and PDHPE Practical lessons, including a College hat and water bottle. **Replacement hats will no longer be available for students to hire.** If your son/daughter does not have their hat with them the normal classroom procedures will be followed for not having the correct equipment, and they will be provided with sunscreen to apply.

Please notify the College if your child has any allergies to sunscreen.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Parents and friends are warmly invited to join us in celebrating the beginning of the 2015 school year with Mass to be held at

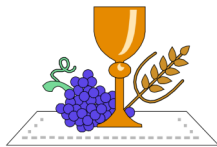
***St Benedict's Catholic College
in the Cloister (COLA)***

on

Tuesday 10 February

commencing at

9:15am



The P&F warmly invite

Parents of Year 7 2015

to a

Welcome Evening Soiree

to be held on

Tuesday 17 February

6:30pm—8pm

Come and meet the staff and inspect the new buildings. Light refreshments will be provided.

More details to follow.

St Benedict's P&F Association

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 24 February

7pm at the College.

All parents/carers are invited to attend.

P&F Working Bee

Saturday 21 February

(flyer to follow)

6:45am—11am

There are plenty of jobs to be done with our main priorities weeding and window cleaning. We welcome any assistance you can offer on Saturday morning.

A flyer will be sent home within the week with a tear off section for you to complete if you are able to attend. This will assist us with catering. Yes, breakfast will be supplied!

IMPORTANT

The College Newsletter is produced fortnightly, while every other week, a shortened Bennis Bites, is available. These are posted on the College website every Tuesday (unless there are extenuating circumstances).

As the College Diary provides a direct means of communication between you and your child's teachers, the Newsletter and the College website are the main sources of information for all that is happening at St Benedict's. For the latest: changes to events/procedures; announcements and invitations; your child's assessment information; the College calendar; copies of permission notes and much more, it is important that parents/carers access the newsletter/website **at least once a week.**

TWITTER

The College's Twitter account can be accessed:

@St_Benedict's