



St Benedict's Catholic College Newsletter

Vol 6, Issue 16 18 November 2016

Dear Parents

As the world watched the USA elections unfold over the last few days (or years if you were really keen), there has been much discussion and debate on a range of issues around leadership. We also waited in anticipation of the possibility of a woman being elected as President for the first time in America's 238-year history. Although this did not eventuate in this particular instance, there are positive messages that can be taken away from the journey that we all witnessed.

With the Induction of our Middle School Leaders this week, it was timely to remind ourselves about how we understand Leadership in the Benedictine tradition. Whole volumes have been written about Benedict's leadership ideas that are useful for those in Business, but as a school community "The Rule of Mutual Respect" is a core part of our thinking. "They should each try to be the first to show respect to the other" and that to "their fellow monks they show the pure love of brothers" (Rule, 72) is integral to our practices of gratitude and acknowledgment which we have in our Awards and Rewards system.

In our new Middle Leaders we look for mutual reliance: each of the Year 9 leaders must learn to rely on each other and the Senior Prefects and Captains. That reliance should be deep and multidirectional.

In all areas of life, be they politics or school leadership, "Division is Death" as the saying goes. A few recent ex Prime Ministers of this country found that out. If we understand that, as a first step, mutual respect is the glue that binds, then our training of student leaders has gone a long way to being successful.

Last Thursday night we had the opportunity to say a final farewell to the Class of 2016 at their Year 12 Formal. It was lovely to chat to the students and their parents about their hopes and dreams beyond St Benedict's, now that they have completed their HSC. On 16 December, when the HSC results are finalised and announced, we host a morning tea at school to celebrate with the students, and I hope that they can all attend. Good luck and go well Year 12.

I share with you a reflection that was read at the College on November 11.

*Today, on Remembrance Day,
let us think about how we can choose
the path of peace in our daily lives,
and object to the ignorance and lack of tolerance
that has historically caused conflict.
Let us use the lessons of the past
to guide us wisely as we try to navigate
the path to creating a better future.*

Michael Hanratty
Principal

NOVEMBER

Wed 23 Yr 7 2017 Orientation Evening
Fri 25 Yr 7 2017 Student Orientation

DECEMBER

Thurs 8 Duke of Ed - Canberra Day 1
Fri 9 Duke of Ed - Canberra Day 2
Mon 12 Yrs 7-10 Reports distributed
Wed 14 College Closing Mass
Thurs 15 Beach Day
Fri 16 Parent/Teacher Interviews
(Pupil Free)

JANUARY

Mon 30 First day for Years 7 & 12 students
Tues 31 Years 8-11 commence



The P&F is seeking your help for an important upcoming event.



Friday 25 November
9am to 12:30pm

Year 7 2017 Orientation Day BBQ

We would greatly appreciate the help with this annual event.

Please contact Clare-Ann Taylor on
0401 199 635



A reminder:

The Year 7 2017 Orientation Day on
Friday 25 November

is **NOT** a

Pupil Free Day

for St Benedict's students

CATHOLIC MISSION and VISION

There are some really great opportunities on offer to students in the next few weeks, and I encourage all students and families to become involved where applicable.

CATECHISTS

The first of these opportunities is for our Year 9 students. I have spoken with classes and encouraged our Year 9 students to consider becoming involved in the student Catechist program. Our Year 10 group has 20 students currently undertaking this important ministry. The student Catechist program allows students to undertake a one day training course where they are taught knowledge and skills in regards to teaching young children some of the basic beliefs of our Church. Next year, our students will have the chance to attend one of the local government primary schools and to share their faith with the students. This is a great evangelization opportunity as students are able to teach the faith and at the same time develop their own understanding. I would encourage interested Year 9 students who have expressed their interest in the program to take up this wonderful opportunity.

SOCIAL JUSTICE DAY

Students who have been involved in Social Justice have been offered the opportunity to attend the Secondary Social Justice day. This is run by the Catholic Education Office and allows our students to develop their sense of social justice. They will have the opportunity to discuss issues and strategies with students from other schools, and to listen to key speakers who will share their own experiences of justice. Good luck to the students attending this day. We look forward to you sharing your ideas with the Social Action group and the rest of the College community on your return.

WOLLONGONG YOUTH FESTIVAL

The Year 10 students will have the opportunity to attend the Wollongong Youth Festival. This is an event run by the Office of the Bishop and the Catholic Education Office. Students will attend the day at the Xavier Centre at Wollongong and will involve guest speakers, music and activities which will help students from across the diocese understand their faith. The day session concludes at 6.00pm, at which time students will return to school. For those students interested, there is a plenary session from 6.30pm – 9.00pm. This will be a really exciting and engaging session and all students are invited to attend. Students who have attended the day session will need to arrange to meet a parent/carer at 5.30pm and have already informed me of this on their return note. The festival will be exciting and I encourage students to attend.

CATHOLIC MISSION AND ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Social Action group is currently investigating fundraisers to support both Catholic Mission in their appeal for Cambodia as well as SVDP and their Christmas appeal. This week we celebrate the Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. St Elizabeth was an amazing woman who was known for charitable practices of dedicating herself to the poor, providing them with the basics of food and clothing, as well as building a hospital. She provides for us a wonderful example of being charitable and I encourage all students and families to support these initiatives.

FEAST DAYS

This coming Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King. This of course, marks the end of Ordinary time and the beginning of the preparation for Christmas and the season of Advent. It certainly is a reminder of how quickly the year goes by and at some stage in the coming week, students might want to take a moment to reflect on how they have attempted to live the words of St Benedict, by attempting to “Be My (Jesus’) Light”.

Mr David Costin
Director of Mission and Vision

St Anthony's Parish, Tahmoor

The LAST FAMILY MASS for the year is on Saturday November 26th @ St. Anthony's Church , Tahmoor @ 6-00pm. The 2016 year has one of ADVENTURE, SADNESS,RENEWAL , DESTRUCTION, PEACE and HAPPINESS so we need to come together as a PARISH FAMILY to celebrate and look forward to a bright future. We invite all families to “sing along with the choir, dance with the liturgical dancers, play with the merry band ,and share in the EUCHARIST with Father John. Refreshments after Mass as usual.

Diocesan Basketball Day

On Monday the 31st October, students from Years 7-11 made their way to Berkley and Minto for a Basketball Gala Day. There was a mixture of abilities and talents, which allowed all teams to come together and work as a one. There were some wins and losses on the day, but all in all, the students had a great time and had fun every time they stepped on the court. As the day progressed each student was able to improve in the skills of basketball, which was great to see. We would like to thank Mrs Cranney, Miss Abouchabake, Mr Bulfon and Mr Limbrey for taking the students on the day and giving us the advice and skills we required.



Diocesan Cricket

On the 2nd November Mr Bates and the Boys Diocesan Cricket Team set out for Fairy Meadow in Wollongong to play against four other schools in the Diocesan Cricket Carnival. Our first match was against John Therry. We had some cracking batting first up by Jack Smart and Corey Bigwood giving us a score of 78 to beat. When John Therry had their turn to bat, some excellent bowling from Aaron O'Callaghan, our captain, and Koray Kadir, limited them to only 58, giving us the win.

Our second match was against Corpus Christi who were a formidable team. They beat us by only 3 runs in the last over of the game due to some tight bowling by Jackson Jones, Harry Whalan, Daniel Hanser and Jeromy Schonell.

Our last pool game we played was against Edmund Rice College. This was an extremely difficult match up due to the fact the team consisted of Year 9 students, except for three who were excellent batters. Our team put up a fight but in the end the team was too strong for us, beating us by 40 runs.

With enough points on the board through the pool matches we made the play off for 5th and 6th place against Magdalene. Our school won the toss and decided to bowl first so we would know the score that we were chasing. Aaron and Jack shut down Magdalene early in the game due to some early wickets. This helped the team restrict them to only 51 runs. Jack Smart and Corey Bigwood opened the batting getting some early boundaries. Unfortunately Corey was out for 10, which brought Aaron in to continue the boundaries to make sure we had a win. In the end St Benedict's beat Magdalene 53-51 with 1 over to spare. Thank you Mr Bates for being such a great coach.

Thank you to Mr O'Callaghan for being our umpire for the day. Your time and support was greatly appreciated.

Jeromy Schonell (Year 8)



**YEAR 7 2017
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

The Information Evening for parents and students for Year 7 2017 is being held on **Wednesday 23 November**. A letter has been sent home this week with further details. If there is a problem with the session you have been allocated, please contact the Office for alternate arrangements.

STUDENT ORIENTATION DAY

The Year 7 2017 Orientation Day is **Friday 25 November**. Students are expected at the College at 8:15am for an 8:25am start and are to be collected at 2:15pm. They are to wear their current school sports uniform, including a hat. Lunch will be provided.

Please note that the carpark is a shared area and parking spaces are limited.



Café News



From the freezer:
Ice cream cups \$2.50 now \$2.00

Students are reminded that no bags are to be brought into the Café.

Please have your card ready before you reach the checkout.



About

An eSafety expert from the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner will be delivering a FREE workshop on how you can help keep young people safe online.

For more information visit esafety.gov.au.



Learn how

- young people are using social media and technology
- to make a complaint about child cyberbullying
- we can help remove serious cyberbullying material.



When

7-8pm
Tuesday
29 November 2016
at
CatholicCare
Wollongong
25-27 Auburn St
RSVP: Kath 4254 9332
kathw@catholiccare.org.au
w.org.au



Office of the Children's
eSafety Commissioner

esafety.gov.au

Year 12 Major Works

Industrial Technology—Timber



Chris Sandrone

STAND UP PADDLE BOARD with FIN BOX



Blake Poidevin – Blanket Box



Lachlan Abbott – Ping Pong Table



Hayden Knoll - Queen Bed



Jack Chiswick - Bar



Reece Meredith - Desk



Harry Lottey – Hall Table



ST. BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

CAPA SHOWCASE NIGHT!

DRAMA

MUSIC

PHOTOGRAPHY

VISUAL ARTS

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9 2016

COLA | T3

6PM – 8PM

COFFEE | SLUSHIES |
SAUSAGE SIZZLE