Dear Parents

“Listen With the Ear of Your Heart” (RB Prologue:1)

St Benedict opens the Prologue to the Rule with this very important exhortation. He has borrowed from the Book of Proverbs. This message is at the centre of this week’s Gospel message. We find the Pharisees making a big issue out of the fact that the disciples of Jesus eat without washing their hands according to the Jewish custom and making that a reason for not listening to the challenging teaching of Jesus. Jesus goes on to talk about the importance of the heart. What is important is not what goes into a person but what comes out of them - their behaviour. Our behaviour shows what is inside us. “It is from within, from people’s hearts, that evil intentions emerge; theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly.”

The precise difference between Jesus and the Pharisees was that they looked at the external activity whereas Jesus looked at the heart, the source of activity. They looked to the fulfilment of law and tradition while he looked to love and commitment. They looked at the letter of the law while he looked at its spirit.

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Any parent visitors to the school over the last two weeks will realise that we are at an exciting, but difficult, time in the building process. A huge thank you to our parent chauffeurs who still drop their children to school each morning and your assistance in parking and drop off at the far end of the car park is greatly appreciated. The final extension to parking, together with the formal entrance to St Benedicts College should be completed by the middle of next term.

We have been advised by the builders that handover of the Staff Study and the Administration/Reception building will occur at the end of the term. All demountable buildings at the front of St Justin’s Primary (including ours) will be removed over the holiday break. This has necessitated us closing both schools on Friday 18 September, the last day of term, in order to allow removalists and other tradespeople to enter and work on both schools. Year 11 Exams will proceed as normal.

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Parents of children in Years 7 & 9 should have received their NAPLAN results from ACARA last week. Our Year 9 improvement across all areas was extremely pleasing. In the area of Writing, in particular, we are far outstripping the National average and well in advance of all the Catholic schools across the system.

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Senior (Year 11) Retreat
A reminder to parents and families that the Year 11 retreat is to be held from Wednesday 21 October to Friday 23 October. This is a very exciting opportunity for our students and I know the staff involved are very much looking forward to this experience.

Signed Information Sheet to be returned to the Academic Care Tutor by Friday 11 September.

PATHWAY TO SELECTION
Earlier this term Courtney Schonell of Year 9 was nominated to trial for the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges U/16 Hockey team. From this trial she was named as a shadow player for the NSW All Schools team. Following the withdrawal of a team member, Courtney was called up into the state side to compete in the National Schools Hockey Championships in Perth.

After an outstanding performance in Perth, Courtney has been named in the U/16 Australian Schools team which will compete in South Africa in June 2016. Courtney will be eligible for the following year’s team as well, so is keen to continue her outstanding form to qualify for the 2017 team in Europe.

Congratulations, Courtney, on your achievement.

For further information on the sporting pathways available to students, see Mr Turton.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Thursday 6 August saw the St Benedict’s Catholic College Athletics Carnival held at Campbelltown Sports Stadium. With some spectacular weather being provided the students embraced the day and participated throughout in a great fashion.

At the end of the day Polding were convincing winners on 1770 points, in front of Ingham on 1449, with Dhawaral third on 1358.

All students were brilliant in representing their Houses on the day and in supporting each other throughout.

Congratulations to the Age Champions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Boy</th>
<th>Girl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Aidan Wood</td>
<td>Emily Murdoch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dylan Mifsud</td>
<td>Caitlin Orridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Cameron Almond</td>
<td>Alex Wark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nick Hogan</td>
<td>Maddy Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Reece Meredith</td>
<td>Abbey Petrovski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gabriel Ciappa</td>
<td>Maddy Constantine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to all participants on another great Carnival.

CLOTHING POOL
Clothing pool is open on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month at 8am and again at 2.40pm. If you need something outside of these times or want to check what we have please contact Rachael on 0402247088.

Stocks are very low so we would appreciate any donations of old uniforms that are still in good condition.

Congratulations to Miss Brady, all our Year 10 students and the Year 10 Tutors on the highly successful Outdoor Education Programme conducted at the Somerset Outdoor Centre last week. Luckily, the rather bracing evenings were offset by beautiful weather. The level of Year 10 camaraderie, teamwork and the achievement of individual personal bests were commented on by the Centre staff and by our own teachers. Year 10 should be very proud of their achievements and they represented themselves and the College in a fine manner. Well done all round.

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Over the last few weeks Years 8 and 10 have been finalising their elective lines for next year. It is a challenging time for Year 10 in particular as they confront making some decisions about future work-life pathways. Thank you to Mr Bombardiere, Director of Learning and Teaching, who has ensured that the maximum number of students achieve their choices and that the process has been fair and equitable despite smaller student numbers in those first year groups. With that process for Year 10 having been completed, parents will shortly be sent home the form to indicate re-enrolment for Years 11 & 12.

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Finally, thank you to Mr Lo Cascio who acted as Principal during my unexpected absence last week and thank you to the parents who emailed to express their condolences. I really did feel very supported by the College community. Thank you.

Michael Hanratty
Principal
**DIOCESAN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

On Friday 21 August 2015 a squad of 35 students represented St Benedict’s Catholic College at the annual Diocesan Athletics Championships held at Campbelltown Athletics Track. The students showed a great deal of commitment, arriving at school at 7am on a very cold, winter’s day, ready to compete in various track and field events.

Once again, with 11 participating schools there was a very high level of competition across all age groups at this event. Being a fairly new school, and with Year 10 competitors unfortunately unable to attend due to an outdoor education camp, our college had the smallest number of competitors. This however, did not impact on the level of enthusiasm shown by those students attending. All students deserve praise for their level of involvement and willingness to participate in a range of events, most acting outside their comfort zones, assisting as replacements.

A special congratulations must be extended to Thomas Gleeson of year 8, who was successful in gaining selection into the Wollongong Diocese team after his first place effort in 14 Boys Shot Put, with a winning throw of 10.73m. A special mention must also go to Chenoa Brimble (7) and Jonah Nader (8), who, although did not gain selection, had a very successful day at the carnival. Chenoa Brimble received a 2nd place in 13 girls Javelin and 3rd place in the 13 girls Discus event. Jonah Nader, with a jump of 5.31m placed 2nd in the boys Long Jump.

Congratulations to Lachlan Parker who represented the College in the athletes with disabilities (AWD) events. Lachlan was a great asset to the team, securing 1st place in each of his events, making a large contribution to the points St Benedict’s received on the day.

Ms Taylor Morley  
Team Manager

**COLLEGE SPORT WEEK 6 & 7**

Congratulations to the following students who were nominated as MVPs for Week 7 & 8;

- **Swimming**  
  Dylan Spiteri and Lukkas Marrapodi
- **Sportsfun**  
  Alessandro Loprete
- **Zumba**  
  Cooper Auchterlonie, Amelia Merry, Nathanial Murphy
- **Crossfit**  
  Emily Newton and Nicki Ross
- **Taekwondo**  
  Angel Pallar
- **Sport Clinic**  
  Isaac Hobman and Mason Emmett
- **Bodywar**  
  Joshua Szafranski
- **Maximum Skating**  
  Eliza Craig, Bailey Taylor and Maddy Evans

(Wash Out: AFL, Bowling, Cricket, F45, Tennis)

**MISA Sport**

Our MISA teams had their sixth round of competition against St Patrick’s College. The Junior Girls Football continued on their outstanding run in the competition with a solid draw against St Patrick’s College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>MVP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Netball</td>
<td>Lost 28-8</td>
<td>Christina Kumar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Netball</td>
<td>Lost 31-2</td>
<td>Alana Azzopardi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7-9 Soccer</td>
<td>Draw 1-1</td>
<td>Letisha Guedes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10/11 Soccer</td>
<td>Lost 7-1</td>
<td>Annalyse Papaleo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10/11 Basketball</td>
<td>Lost 22-6</td>
<td>Jackson Fletcher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Round 7 the MISA teams faced off against Magdalene College. In a tough round against an established College the results were quite pleasing!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Netball</td>
<td>Wash Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Netball</td>
<td>Wash Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7-9 Soccer</td>
<td>Wash Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10/11 Soccer</td>
<td>Wash Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7-9 AFL Boys</td>
<td>Cancelled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7-9 AFL Girls</td>
<td>Cancelled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10/11 Basketball</td>
<td>Lost 27 - 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MVP Jackson Auchterlonie

Mr Michael Turton
If your child is leaving early:
- Please supply a note in student diary stating time to be picked up.
- Student to show note to teacher and go to the Office at the appointed time.
- Students are NOT to wait for someone to come and get them.

If your child is sick at school:
- Students who become sick at school must notify their teacher (or the teacher on duty if during Recess or Lunch) who will note in their diary that they are reporting to Sick Bay. Students should not text/email their parents to tell them that they are sick. Phone calls will be made from the Front Office.
- On arrival at the Front Office, students will be assessed or treated if injured. If they are unable to return to class parents will be contacted and asked to make arrangements for the student to be collected from the College.
- If an injury or condition requires medical treatment and a parent or emergency contact cannot be reached, the school will organise treatment through NSW Ambulance.

If your child has been absent from school:
- Every time your child is absent from school, either for part of the day or for the full day, the College must be notified of the reason for the absence, within 5 school days.
- The reason for the absence can be supplied by the parent/carer by replying to the automatic email, by phone, a note or in person.
- Any absence that is not explained will be recorded as Unjustified and the student’s record will show Attendance as Unsatisfactory.
- Student Attendances are externally audited, and this is a legal requirement.

Got a Virus?

There are several nasty viruses going around at the moment and our Sick Bay has been at full capacity. If your child is ill please keep them at home so as to minimise the spread of these “bugs” among students and staff.

CAFÉ NEWS

New Items on the Menu:

- Mini Pita Bread Pizzas:
  - Cheese, Meat lovers, Hawaiian: $4
- Baked Potatoes with Bolognaise: $4
- Meatball Subs: $4
- Streets Paddle Pops: $2
- Mini Calippo: $1.20
- Magnum: $4
let’s roll... with Barefoot Lawn Bowls!

The Camden Men’s Bowling Club will host a series of FREE Barefoot Bowls afternoons as part of Camden Council’s 2015 Youth OutReach Activities!

Learn the drills and skills of Lawn Bowls and bring your friends for fun in the sun. All equipment is provided and sessions will start from 4pm on the following Wednesday afternoons:

**September:** 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th
**October:** 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th
**November:** 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th

**Where:** Camden Sports Club, 22 Cawdor Rd, Camden
**Info:** Call Alex from Camden Men’s Bowling Club on 4658 1520 or 0409 306 256