23 January 2017

Principal’s Message

2017 Begins

Once again we have commenced the year solidly with an outstanding increase in student numbers. We currently have around 510 students enrolled, which is a huge jump from the 52 students we started with four years ago. This year we welcome 132 Year 7 students and an additional 23 new students into Year 8-11 classes.

Year 7 and Year 11 students will commence on Tuesday 24 January with all other year levels resuming school on Wednesday 25 January.

This year is a special one because we have our first cohort of graduating students… our first group of Year 12’s, our first Formal, Senior Jerseys, QCST preparation and completion of the test, our first Graduation Ceremony and anticipation of Senior results. Our Year 11 and 12 students, and in particular our Senior Leaders, have been asked to be good role models to the younger students, act as buddies, and to get the best out of their senior years in readiness for fulfilling their senior pathways, various courses of study and the world of work or study after school.

For students entering the college in Year 7, we will focus on helping them settle into secondary college life – organisation, time management, making friends, exploring new subjects and having fun whilst learning. With our support, we hope that these and other students new to the college will experience a smooth transition into our community.

Student Achievements

Congratulations to Year 9 students Kaitlyn Bensley and Caitlyn Daunt who will be representing Cheer FX in the 2017 NCA Championships in Dallas, USA toward the end of February. As members of this elite cheer team, both girls have been practicing for long hours in the lead up to the competition. We wish them both well.

Staff News

Just as our student numbers have increased, so has the number of staff increased. We welcome the following staff to our St Benedict’s community:

- Mark Bennedick – Teacher
- Andrew Bone – Teacher
- Joshua Carseldine – Teacher
- Megan Davis – Teacher
- Milton Dempster – Teacher
- Kimberly de Silva – Library Assistant (P/T)
- Carol Hoareau – Year 11 and 12 Pastoral Leader
- Lyn McErlean – Design Technologies Curriculum Leader
- Amanda Robinson – Science Curriculum Leader
- Olivia Robson – Teacher
- Priya Sharma – Teacher
- Brandon Van Der Molen – IT Technician

We are blessed to have so many new staff to enrich our curriculum and provide pastoral care and support to students in the varied roles undertaken.

Traffic and Parking

There is always a lot of congestion and additional traffic around schools in the first couple of weeks as parents get used to the drop off and pick up schedules. The turn-around is used by both the primary school and the college; and to help alleviate congestion we have staggered our finishing times so that we do not finish at the same time as the primary school. The college finishes school at 3.00 pm on a Wednesday and Thursday with other days finishing at 2.30 pm. As the primary school finishes at 2.45 pm each day, our parents should have easy access and flow through at these times.

Please follow the following rules for the safety of your children and the management of traffic flow.

1. Do not park in any of the turn-around areas; this includes drop off and pick up lanes. These areas are for stopping only and at no time should a parent park and leave their vehicle.
2. Do not park in any area line marked for buses. These areas are adjacent to the Primary Hall. There are numerous buses which come into the college both in the morning and in the afternoon. Parking in these areas makes it difficult for buses to stop and unsafe for students to embark and disembark the buses.

3. Secondary students being dropped off or picked up should be done off the smaller car park. However, students with younger siblings are able to be dropped off and allowed to line up with the primary students in their pick up zone so that there is only one stop for parents.

4. We have asked secondary students to wait in our Multi-purpose undercover building for parents and then move to their car when they see it.

5. We provide 40 mins of supervision for students whilst waiting to catch the bus on a 2.30pm finish and 20 mins of supervision on 3pm finish days.

6. If parents or buses are late in picking up students we ask students to come back to the office for safety after 3.20pm.

7. Parents wishing to park may do so in either of the car park areas (small or larger car park). Both car parks provide numerous spaces and are shared by the primary and secondary staff as well as being available for parents. These are the only areas for parking. Please refrain from parking on the footpaths, green verges or the oval.

8. Pedestrians are asked to cross at the Pedestrian Crossing for safety.

Opening Mass

All parents are invited and most welcome to attend our Opening Mass which will be held on Tuesday 31 February, 9.30 am at the Holy Cross Parish Church. This is a special occasion Mass as we will be commissioning our Year 12 students with a presentation of their senior badge and Year 11 students into their Senior Phase of leadership and learning with a senior tie presentation.

Date Claimers

Tuesday 24 January - First day of school for Year 7 and 11 students, and Year 12 Student Leaders
Wednesday 25 January - All students at school
Thursday 26 January - Australia Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 31 January - College Opening Mass, 9.30am at Holy Cross Church, Kippa Ring
Wednesday 1 February - Inter-House Swimming Carnival

May 2017 be one filled with good grace, peace and love.
God’s blessings

Claire McLaren
Principal

We encourage all parents to access and familiarise themselves with the Parent Portal as soon as possible.

The Portal contains relevant information and forms that can easily be accessed by parents. Features include being able to notify us 24 hours a day of your child’s absence, and being able to easily update any of your contact information. Student academic reports are loaded onto the Portal during the year for parents to download.

From the Deputy Principal

Subject Classes Begin

Students will begin classes in Week 2 and will then be able to experience the nature of the subject that they have selected. Sometimes, students underestimate the nature of the subject they have chosen and become unsure of it and request a change before they have actually had the opportunity to experience it.

Students in Years 9 to 10 are to stay in allocated classes for a full two-week cycle to really discern the actual need for a change. There is always opportunity to change if indeed the circumstances warrant it. However, it is unusual for many changes to occur throughout year levels, due to the consultation, care and conversation that students, parents and teachers have had in the preceding year.

All subject changes require a process to be followed, which includes parent signature and comment on a subject change form.

Any changes to Year 11 or 12 subjects has a further consultation step in it, requiring a meeting with the Pathways Leader, Mr Lavercombe to ensure that post school ambitions are not negatively impacted due to a change.

New Queensland Senior Studies Postponed Until 2019

Late in 2016, the State Government announced that it would delay the start of the new Senior Secondary reform initiatives until 2019. This means that our current Year 8 students will be
the first cohort of students who will experience the upgraded Senior Secondary system in Queensland. For further information, click the following link.

**Years 7 to 12 College Curriculum**

With 510 students beginning the academic year, we have a variety of subjects and co-curricular opportunities on offer. With 10 elective subjects studied in Year 7 and 8, expanding to 29 elective subjects across Years 9 and 10; 33 Year 11 and 12 subjects on offer; 30 plus students already taking up TAFE in schools offers and University subjects being studied while in Year 11 and 12, our College shows a great diversity, breadth and depth in its subject offerings.

We also have some new or enhanced initiatives in 2017.

- **NEW: Year 7 Innovation elective subject**, led by Mrs Spooner, Curriculum Leader Humanities and Languages and Mrs Mortimer Year 7 and 8 Pastoral Leader. This innovation subject focusses on students learning about and engaging in entrepreneurial skills to see how innovation occurs and how the factors – personal, social and economic all combine to produce something that brings either a totally new solution to an issue or a new way of looking at the issue. All Year 7 students will experience this elective subject in 2017.

- **ENHANCED: Athlete Development Excellence Program** led by Mr Clarke, our Curriculum Leader HPE, sees Athletes in various sports engage in a practical program on fitness, game and training recovery methods, nutrition, wellbeing, mental agility, persistence and teamwork. Guest speakers who are experts in their field and well as excursions related to the program aims are a feature of the program. Held on Thursday afternoons, this program is designed to extend our College athletes in their chosen fields as well as bringing them collectively together to build mental and physical resilience.

- **NEW: Honoratus Gifted and Talented Program**, led by Mrs Dempster, Deputy Principal, will see invited students from across Years 7 to 10 access a program that integrates their area/s of excellence to promote the practical development of a design solution to a local, national or global issue. This program integrates student’s areas of excellence into real world problems where individually or in teams, students use their area/s of excellence to work with industry experts to think creatively and flexibly on a problem to create a solution of their own design. The program will culminate in a showcase for the community of their learning and outcomes. Honoratus students also gain access to competitions and industry workshops in their areas of interest and expertise. It will be exciting to see what creative ideas students come up with to benefit society and to extend their learning beyond a single subject discipline. The program will run on Thursday afternoons.

Over the course of the first 3 weeks, students who have demonstrated excellent results in a range of assessments, including the Australian Council of Educational Research (ACER) PAT (Progressive Assessment Tests) in Maths and English that all students across Years 7 to 10 do at the College, as well as their subject results, NAPLAN results and ICAS competition results (if applicable), will be invited to sit the ACER Higher Ability Selection Test (HAST) to discern their entry. There is a maximum of 20 places in the program to be filled.

**Candi Dempster**  
**Deputy Principal**

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**From the Assistant Principal Administration**

**Uniform and College Procedures**

Please refer to our Parent Handbook for information about correct uniform (including hair and make up), mobile phones, etc.

**College Photographs in 2017**

The following dates have been booked for College photographs in 2017.

- Friday 27 January 2017 – Staff and Student IDs
- Wednesday 19 April 2017 – Main School Photos (individual, family, class) plus Year 12 cohort
- Friday 23 June 2017 – Year 12 Formal
- Friday 11 August 2017 – Co-Curricular Photos

**College Calendar - Dates for 2017**

I would encourage parents to regularly look at the College Calendar on the Parent Portal to keep up-to-date with the latest information regarding events and dates. The calendar is continually being updated as events are confirmed. 2017 dates are already filling quickly indicating yet another busy year for those associated with St Benedict’s. New families will receive instructions on how to access the Parent Portal in the New Year.

**Tim Campbell**  
**Assistant Principal Administration**

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**From the Assistant Principal Religious Education**

A warm welcome to new families of St Benedict’s College and welcome back to continuing families. I hope your time at the College is rewarding and successful.

In 2017 the College has claimed the theme of: **A growth mindset in a growing community.** As a Christian to remain static, to stop growing in your understanding of the faith and your spirituality, is to sell yourself short.

Carol Dweck and her colleagues in their research identified some characteristics of what people with a growth mindset bring to a community. They take on challenges, recognising that they may fail in the initial stages of the learning journey. Second, they demonstrate “gritty behaviour” by persisting even
when times become very tough. Third, they model an innate belief that putting in the effort will make a big difference. Fourth, they genuinely want to learn, to improve and to succeed. Fifth, they celebrate the success of others, to learn from their success and apply it in their own context.

Our patron, Saint Benedict, must have had a growth mindset. When we look at some of his story there are some parallels.

Benedict lived in solitary in a cave for three years where he meditated on the scriptures and searched for ways to serve God and discipline himself. The spiritual wisdom of Benedict was being discovered when he accepted visitors to his hermitage and eventually he was asked by many monks to be the new leader, Abbott. He took on this challenge knowing that there would be times when he might fail as the new leader in the early stages.

Benedict did not approve of the life and conduct his monks, it was far from the ideal he imagined. His vision of monastic life had to be better than their behavior. He demonstrated “gritty behaviour” by persisting even when times became very tough.

Benedict from the beginning of his establishment of monasteries wanted his monks to be better, to have a conversion in life. He expected the monks to learn about singing the psalms, to work and pray in silence, and to treat people as if they were Christ. He genuinely wanted his monks living in the monasteries to learn, to improve and to succeed.

Benedict practised meditation on the scriptures, service and humility to God and believed in the importance of hard work and prayer in one’s life. This was eventually described through the Rule which he formulated to help his monks live. Benedict modelled an innate belief that putting in the effort would make a big difference.

The Rule is timeless and lay men and woman and those in the monastic life recognise its success. Throughout time it has offered generations a basic guide for the Christian life, through living a simple, balanced and prayerful life. Christians have continuously been inspired by the successful application of The Rule and in the way people have used it to learn from it and apply it to their own context.

College Opening Mass

Our Mass will be on 31 January at Holy Cross Parish Church. It will start at 9.30am and parents are most welcome to attend.

Prayer for the Beginning of a New Year

Loving God, inspire me with courage and hope as I embark on this New Year. Through your loving kindness bless the unfolding journey of my precious life. Grant me wisdom to successfully negotiate my way forward.

Give me the ability to respond positively to the opportunities that come my way. Reassure me when I find life difficult and especially when I feel like giving up. Help me to reach out to others and encourage them along the way.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Peter Olley
Assistant Principal Religious Education

Sports Report

The dictionary is the only place that success comes before work. Hard work is the price we must pay for success. I think you can accomplish anything if you are willing to pay the price.

Vince Lombardi

Welcome back to all returning students and their families, and a special welcome to all of our new students and families. This year will be a massive one for St Benedict’s College – particularly for the Sporting Program. 2017 will see some incredible opportunities on offer to our students and I can’t wait to see what they are capable of.

Inter-House Swimming

The Inter-House Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday 1 February at Lawnton Swimming Pool. Below is a program of events for the day. You will note that the first event starts at approximately 10.00 am and the students will be returning to the College before the normal end of the school day (by 3.00 pm). While every effort will be made to keep to the advertised times for the events this may not be possible.

All students will be required to wear full sports uniform both to and from school on the day, as well as ensuring they have their togs. We would like to strongly encourage students to dress up in House colours and outfits which show off their House spirit – however, if students wish to do this they will need to change once they arrive at the pool and again before they depart the pool.

All students must wear a House coloured cap to compete in events – these caps can be purchased from the Uniform Shop during their normal hours or at the Swimming Carnival. These caps do not have to be purchased from the College, if you already have your own or would prefer to make alternative arrangements. Goggles are also strongly recommended but are not compulsory.
I would like to strongly encourage all students to be involved in at least one event on the day. Our carnival splits the events into the championship event – which is for those who are going for age championship points and have a background in the sport or event – and the participation events in which all students receive one point for their House simply by completing the 50m distance.

The canteen at the pool will be operating all day and students will be allowed to make purchases.

In summary, all students will be expected to bring/wear:

- Full sports uniform including sports hats
- Togs, towel and swimming cap in the colour of your child’s House, (goggles optional)
- Morning tea and lunch or money to purchase at the pool
- Drink bottle

Representative Sport

All students at the College have the opportunity to pursue the Representative Sporting pathway in their chosen sports – through the Pine Rivers District and then on to Metropolitan North Region, State and then finally National level.

Below, is the full up to date calendar for all Pine Rivers and Metropolitan North trials. While every effort will be made to provide up to date information and dates, as well as reminders to all students and families through this newsletter and other avenues, it is ultimately the responsibility of each student to ensure they have all of the necessary information and forms for each trial they wish to attend.

The most up to date information for each trial is available on the Pine Rivers District Sport website and the Metropolitan North School Sport website. The Metropolitan North Website and Queensland School Sport Website also lists dates and details for State Championships and trials for those students and families that are interested.

For all students who are interested in attending any trials for any sport, permission forms must be returned to Mr Gilbert at least five days prior to the advertised trial date. An electronic copy of these forms will be available on the Parent Portal or forms can be collected directly from me.

For some events and trials there may be a fee involved. The process for paying for this will vary depending on the sport. More information regarding the process for each sport will be given to students when they collect forms.

The other main aspect I need to highlight is that all students are responsible for organising their own transport both to and from all Representative Sporting trials and events. The only exceptions to this expectation are for the major carnivals throughout the year – Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics – where the College will provide a bus to and from the event for all students that require transport.

Inter-School Sport

All students from Year 7-10 will be participating in the Pine Rivers District Inter-School Sporting Competition. The sports which students can sign up for in the Summer Season (Term 1 and 2) are:

- **Year 7 Girls** - Netball, Touch Football, Futsal, Walking/Fitness
- **Year 7 Boys** - Touch Football, Futsal, Walking/Fitness
- **Year 8 Girls and Boys** - Futsal, Touch, Volleyball, Basketball, Walking/Fitness
- **Year 9 Girls and Boys** - Futsal, Touch, Volleyball, Basketball, Walking/Fitness
- **Year 10 Girls and Boys** – Futsal, Touch, Volleyball, Basketball

Students from Year 7-9 will play their matches every Thursday afternoon and Year 10 students will be playing on a Wednesday afternoon. Your child will be listing their sport preferences with their PC teacher. While every effort is made to give your child his or her first preference of sport, this may not be possible depending on team numbers and limits of teams. The alternative option for any students who either do not wish to play any of the sports on offer, or who do not get selected in the teams should numbers be limited – is to join the Walking/Fitness Group. This group will be participating in a wide range of activities and sports here at the College during the weekly Inter-School Sport time.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the topics I have written about or any other matter regarding Sport at any level please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Michael Gilbert
Sports Program Leader
mgilbert3@bne.catholic.edu.au

Instrumental Music Program for 2017

Students wishing to have private or group instrumental lessons this year can contact the relevant tutor directly. Parents of both new and continuing students should make contact as soon as possible to ensure that a place is available. Fees for lessons are set by the individual tutors and paid directly to them. Students provide their own instruments, however the College does have an Instrumental Hire Scheme for selected instruments. For information about the hire scheme, please contact Paula-Mary Camilleri: pcamilleri@bne.catholic.edu.au

Woodwind and Brass Tuition with Macala Sheppard

Macala Sheppard has over 20 years’ experience as a music teacher having taught people of all ages in diverse learning environments. She has extensive experience in conducting, transposing, musical direction, and preparing students for exams and concerts. Macala tutors in flute, clarinet, saxophones (alto, tenor and baritone), recorder, trumpet and trombone.

For further information please contact Macala Sheppard - macala12@outlook.com
Piano and Voice Tuition with Anne-Maree Eyles

Anne-Maree is currently a piano teacher and choral accompanist at Brisbane Girl’s Grammar School, adjudicates at Musical Eisteddfods and composes for piano and choirs. She will provide private instrumental lessons for those students wishing to learn for fun or to complete exams from beginner to A.Mus.A.

For further information please contact Anne-Maree Eyles - dajsjn@gmail.com

Guitar, Drum-kit and Voice Tuition with Isaac Kennedy

Isaac Kennedy is an instrumental music teacher, musician and songwriter from Brisbane. He has a Bachelor of Creative Arts and a Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education. Specialising in tuition for guitar, drum-kit, bass and voice, Isaac tutors in a wide variety of styles including pop, rock, country and blues.

For further information please contact Isaac Kennedy - isaaccollinskennedy@gmail.com

Paula Mary Camilleri
Arts and Culture Curriculum Leader

Campus Minister News

Welcome to 2017 Everyone!

As well as celebrating the birth of Christ, I hope you enjoyed some time relaxing while your children were on holidays.

Tomorrow we will welcome our Year 7s to the College, commencing with a liturgy. I look forward to getting to know these newest members of our College community. I was fortunate to meet and spend some time with a number of these students during their orientation day late last year.

This year promises to be another special one as our College grows and we journey with our first ever Year 12 students through a number of significant ‘firsts’ enthusiastically led by our Student Leaders.

Susie O'Farrell
Campus Minister

Canteen – New Menu for 2017

The Canteen is open from 8am until 2pm Monday to Friday, serving Breakfast, Morning Tea and Lunch.

With the extended trading days it is essential that the school community support the Canteen by Volunteering. Everyone is welcome, parents, grandparents etc. Just 30 minutes of your time will make a difference.

The Canteen couldn’t serve food without its amazing student volunteers so please encourage your children to come in and join the team.

Renae Edgley
Canteen Convenor
Ph: 0426 603 611

School Immunisation Program

In 2017, Moreton Bay Regional Council is providing free vaccinations for all Year 7 students, on Friday 3 March, as part of Queensland Health’s annual School Immunisation Program. All Year 7 students are being offered free vaccinations as recommended on the National Immunisation Program to protect against human papillomavirus (HPV) and diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough).

The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of authorised registered nurses and/or a medical practitioner.

A consent pack will be given to your child to bring home. Please read the information booklet carefully, sign the consent card and return the consent card to the school by the required date.

Parents are encouraged to ensure their children have breakfast on the morning of vaccination. For more information about diseases, vaccines or School Immunisation Program, visit the link below or call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84).


College Fees

Welcome to all our families to a very exciting 2017.

A reminder that a new form needs to be completed each year. Any Direct Debits that were in place for 2016 are now finished. If you would like to set up a new DD arrangement, please do so as soon as possible.

Our first fee run is scheduled for Friday 17 February. Please be advised that all fees are sent via email so it is very important that your details are up to date. New families to the College please ensure we have a current email address on file for your student.

Direct Debit and Credit Card forms are on our website or Parent Portal or you can contact me directly to obtain a form.

If you are experiencing any difficulties please don’t hesitate to contact me via email SMAGfinance@bne.catholic.edu.au or telephone me directly on 3385 8807.

Please be assured that all information is treated in the strictest confidence at all times.

Donna Moore
Finance Secretary

Uniform Shop News

Swimming Caps in House colours are now in stock - $4
Blue Futsal Socks now in stock - $8

First week of term trading hours:

Tuesday 24 January - 2.00pm-3.00pm
Friday 27 January - 8.00am-11.00am
Regular trading hours from Week 2 as follows (school terms only):

- Tuesday - 8.00am-9.30am
- Friday - 8.00am-11.00am

For all uniform enquiries please email sbcuniforms@gmail.com.

**Phone orders**

For the convenience of families, uniform orders can be placed via email. Your student can then easily collect the order on Friday morning before school or during first break.

Please note that EFT facilities are available, and cash payments are also accepted. We do not accept cheque payments in the Uniform Shop.

**Second Hand Uniforms**

Second hand uniform items are now being accepted. All clothing is to be freshly laundered and ironed. Please include an envelope with name, phone number, description of items and the price you would like. LJ Apparel does take a small commission for handling.

For those wishing to purchase second hand uniforms, this will be via a strictly cash only system.

**Layby Available**

Detailed information about the Uniform Shop’s layby facility can be obtained from Jenny Brown via the email address listed below, or in person at the Uniform Shop.

**Jenny Brown**  
**Convenor**

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**Parish News**

**Mass Times**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekend Masses</th>
<th>Weekday Masses</th>
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<tr>
<td>6pm Saturday – Holy Cross, Kippa Ring</td>
<td>7.30am Monday – Holy Cross Church, Kippa Ring</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.30am Sunday – Mary Queen of Peace Church, Woody Point</td>
<td>9.00am Tuesday – Holy Cross Church, Kippa Ring</td>
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<tr>
<td>9am Sunday – Holy Cross Church, Kippa Ring</td>
<td>7.30am Wednesday – Mary Queen of Peace Church, Woody Point</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30am Sunday – St Benedict’s Centre, Mango Hill</td>
<td>9.00am Thursday – Mary Queen of Peace Church, Woody Point</td>
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<td>5pm Sunday – Holy Cross Church, Kippa Ring</td>
<td>9.00am Friday – St Benedict’s Centre, Mango Hill</td>
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<td>9.00am Friday – Southern Cross College Chapel, Scarborough</td>
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For more information please visit the Holy Cross Parish website.  
http://www.redcliffecatholicparish.com/