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18 March 2021

From the Pen of the Principal, Robert Corboy

As we continue our Lenten journey, I would like to commence with the Lenten Prayer that appears in our weekly Capricorn Parish notices.

God of all peoples and nations, as you accompany us on our Lenten journey,
 may our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity,
 our almsgiving be an act of justice, & our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.
 Through living simply and loving generously,
 may we care for our global family and our common home,
 as we "aspire not to have more, but to be more."
 We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.
 Saint Oscar Romero

Along with our families, St Brendan's is called to build character in our students. We do so through a holistic education, that challenges our boys to be a person who respects the dignity of every human being. Last week for our full school assembly, the students were divided into two groups, Senior (10-12) and Junior school (7-9).

Mr Couper (Assistant Principal – Senior School) addressed to those gathered regarding the issue of sexual consent, while Mr Gill (Assistant Principal – Junior School) spoke about bullying. Two very significant issues for our young men and for society as a whole.

In response to the recent media reports that highlighted courageous and confronting testimonies by young women of how they have been treated by young men, they were distressing and therefore needed to be discussed. Those testimonies provided a timely reality check both for schools and families. I do acknowledge the very good work in the delivery of our wellbeing and personal development programs here at St

Brendan's, but we will continue to look at how we can improve as educators. I also commend Mr Couper's follow up letter to the senior school families to support them in discussions with their son. Clear messages and shared dialogue about what it means to be young men of good character, needs also to be occurring with parents as the primary educators, as well as in our schools and the wider community. This is a partnership that involves at times, courageous and open conversations as we accompany and educate our boys on their journey into maturity.

Mr Gill in his meeting, invited the students to participate in an anti-bullying survey. As a catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, we are all called to challenge bullying in all its forms as it goes against the dignity and respect that everyone deserves. As a member of this College, every student has a right to feel safe, supported and cared for. We are called to challenge bullying, whether it is physical, verbal or social. The rights of every person must be upheld. The survey will be another tool to support the College in identifying and challenging inappropriate behavior. Though it is everyone's responsibility, I would like to thank in particular both staff members on their leadership in these matters.

God bless
Robert Corboy



Residential News

Dear Parents

In two weeks time the boys will be on their way home. A busy first term will have passed. Most of our new boarders have

settled in well and become familiar with their new surroundings. We hope that the boys will have a good and refreshing holiday.

To help us plan for the end of the term, we would ask our boarding families to please let us know the travel arrangements for your sons. Renee in the Residential Office has started a spreadsheet with all the details.

Laundry

We have had quite a significant amount of unclaimed laundry. Often times when the boys go home parents buy the boys new items of clothing, hats, etc. It's really important to remember to mark all items of clothing so that they don't get lost and to help the laundry staff get them back to the right owner.

Update In Year 12 Vehicle Policy

We recently reviewed our student vehicle policy for Year 12's bringing a vehicle to the College.

Whilst the policy remains largely the same, the one change is that if a parent (but not a host) signs a student out on leave, with the parents agreement, he can take his vehicle.

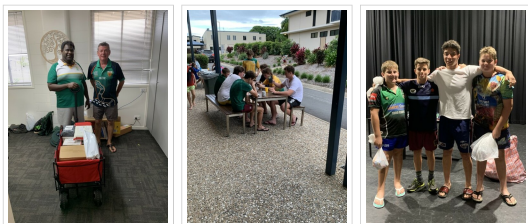
Safe Driving

We are attempting to arrange a safe driving instruction day for the boys. We are also arranging some talks for the boys on safe driving. When we get this organised we will give you an update.

New Staff

We welcome two new residential staff members: Peter Corboy and Linda White. Both come to us with experience of working in boarding at other places. Welcome Peter and Linda.

Wishing you a very happy Easter, an enjoyable one with your boys at home, and a good break for the boys after a very full and busy term.



Father Pius
Assistant Principal Residential

Identity News

Becoming Catholic – 'Decision Point'

St Brendan's College will once again be offering a Sacramental program for students who wish to become a member of our Catholic community, or who have already been baptised as a Catholic (or another Christian denomination) and wish to undertake the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist.

The 'Decision Point' program will be conducted over a nine-week period, commencing Term Two and aims to walk the candidate through the various sacramental aspects of the Catholic faith.

The program will run for one session per week, for one hour and will conclude with a special Sacramental mass held in conjunction with St Ursula's College.

If you are interested in your son becoming involved please do not hesitate to contact me directly via email: PeersS@sbc.qld.edu.au or phone: 0749 399 431.

Eddie's Van

Over the past eleven years St Brendan's College has provided our Eddie's Food Van service to disadvantage people in Yeppoon. The Eddie's Van has become a part of the fabric of St Brendan's College as it provides, not only a much-needed service to the local community, but also the opportunity for staff and students to experience the 'Charism of Edmund Rice' in serving the marginalised.

The Eddie's Van promotes confidence and empowers members of our local community who have fallen on hard times by providing the basic necessities to restore their dignity and self-worth. It responds to the ever-increasing needs of the poor and marginalized within the local community of Yeppoon who are suffering significant social, emotional and financial disadvantage.

The Eddie's Van is always in desperate need for helpers from Years 10-12. If you can spare an hour or so of your time on a Thursday afternoon, we would love to see you down there. Simply see your Year Level Coordinator or myself to get your name on the roster. We meet every Thursday at 4:15pm in the teachers' staffroom and we return to the College approximately 5:30pm.

Caritas Australia



Caritas Australia is a Catholic agency for international aid and development, working to alleviate poverty and bring hope and justice to disadvantaged communities throughout the world. Ash Wednesday marks the launch of the six-week Project Compassion campaign here at St Brendan's College. Please consider donating to the Project Compassion boxes that can be found in PC rooms across the school and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Be More", inspired by Saint Oscar Romero who said "Aspire not to have more, but to be more."

Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year, you are empowering communities with hope and helping those in great need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. This year's Project Compassion showcases the many ways we work around the world with our local partners to offer hope to people most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

Fourth Sunday of Lent
14th March 2021

Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet, so he and his family always had to walk into the forest to an open defecation area. His family was often sick and open defecation caused many neighbourhood disputes.

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner, Laz Harfa, Arsad took part in hygiene, sanitation and financial management training. He then funded the building of a toilet in his house and helped other community members to save for toilets.

Now Arsad's family is healthier. Their community no longer practices open defecation and is more harmonious. Arsad inspired his community to 'Be More.'

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help improve health and wellbeing of communities in Indonesia so they can work towards eradicating poverty, providing a better future for all.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Boarders' Mass

The College amphitheatre dates back to the late 1960s and was popular for showing the latest movies on a Saturday night. The amphitheatre continued to be used until 1978 until the area near the Swimming Pool became more popular.

On 23 February 2015 Cyclone Marcia caused severe damage to the area. For the safety of students, the amphitheatre was decommissioned for use. Brought on by the restrictions of Covid, the boarding students are, once again, utilising this beautiful area of our College. Every Tuesday a 'Boarders' mass is held in the amphitheatre at the College. Improvements are slowly but surely being made. Last week we celebrated mass for the first time with our newly erected altar. The altar was generously donated by Capricorn Sandstone Quarries. Please see below for images.



Mr Shane Peers
AP – Identity

Year 10 Camp, 2021

All Year 10 boys are being offered the opportunity to attend a camp at Emu Gully Adventure Group in Helidon Spa. Information regarding the camp was emailed to all parents during Week 7.

The camp will be a great opportunity for the boys to deepen their friendships and to build fun and rewarding memories of their time in Year 10 at St Brendan's. I strongly encourage all boys to attend.

Further information about the camp can be found at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWG46li7NW4>



It would be appreciated if the deposit of \$150.00 could be made as soon as possible in order to allow us to finalise our numbers. Further information will be communicated to all families in coming weeks.

Mr Jody Ohl
Head of Year 10

Dignity Bags



We are collecting bags to support the fight against domestic and family violence. We will be putting bags together, filled with toiletries to give to families and people who have been affected by domestic or family violence. If you have any old handbags, children's backpack or toiletries, could you please drop them into the office, or to Mrs Tracey Deasy (Yr 7 Head of Year)

Sports News

SBC 1st XV's Regional Rugby Championships

Last weekend the St. Brendan's 1st XV's Rugby Union team attended the 2021 Regional Rugby Championships that were hosted by Rockhampton Grammar School. Teams travelled from all over Regional Queensland to attend this annual tournament, including:

Downlands College – First XV (Gold)
Downlands College – First XV (Green)
Marist College – First XV
Ignatius Park – First XV and U15
St Brendan's - First XV
RGS – First XV and U15
Emmaus College U15

The St. Brendan's team came up against an experienced Marist Emerald College and ran out to a 12 point lead at halftime, only to see Marist Emerald claw their back into a competitive game. Marist Emerald ended up winning the game 21 – 17. As this was SBC first game of the season, it took the players some time to find their rhythm and they started to play competitive Rugby in the second game against a very well drilled Downlands College 1st XV's team who took the game out 31 – 15.

To their credit the SBC 1st XV's regrouped on Sunday morning for an 8.30am Final against Downlands (Green) and the players took note of their weaknesses from day one and remedied these with an emphatic win by 43 – 17 victory.

The SBC players award went to Blake Anders who made some decisive line breaks, showed a great set of hands, did not miss a tackle at fullback and volunteered to jump in the Line Out when a player was unavailable to jump in the Sunday am game v Downlands. An all-round great effort. Blake was well supported by his backline players with Blaydon Dodd and Mack

Nixon both showing creative flair in attack and astute kicking to help the team find positive field positions.

It took the forwards until game three to fully realise their potential and they were led by Team Captain Baxta Lancaster and fellow senior forwards Dempsey Davey, Rhys Watson. A special mention must go to the four u16s players who played in the u18s tournament and all showed great improvement and resilience to play in the older age bracket, Oscar Hills, Jake Peirce, Harley Byers and Te Wairongoa Pohoikura-Mill.

The SBC 1st XVs team will now compete against Rockhampton Grammar School and TCC in the Rockhampton Schools District Competition with the finals scheduled at Rugby Park on Saturday March 27th.

Mr Matt Cullen
1st XV Rugby Union Coach



Pictured: Blake Anders along with the other students that received Player of the Carnival awards.

LeagueFit

On Wednesday afternoons all Year 7 Rugby League Players are invited to attend the "LeagueFit" program. LeagueFit prepares young Rugby League players of all abilities for the physical demands of the sport. Over the last two weeks, the future players of the college have been training hard to give themselves a physical advantage over the opposition. Mr Guinane and Mr Henley have been focusing on improving the boy's strength and flexibility whilst teaching them good training habits. Both coaches have noted great improvements in the boy's strength and flexibility after just two weeks of the program.



St Brendan's College Cross Country

Unfortunately due to recent wet weather the Inter-House Cross Country scheduled for Friday 19th March will be postponed to a later date. This is yet to be confirmed.

Mr Dallas Williams
Director of Sport

Careers

Below is a link to our SBC Careers newsfeed. Students and Families have the option to subscribe to the newsfeed and will then receive an email every time careers info is posted. Alternatively the newsfeed can be accessed periodically by looking at the link.

<https://www.sbccareers.com.au/newsfeed>

The content will include positions vacant as well as latest info on career development, holiday opportunities and the list goes on.

We currently have about 100 subscribers including parents and students. It is effective when parents receive the newsfeed updates and discuss relevant opportunities with their sons. Parents and students can then contact me if they require further information.

Jackie Russell
Head of Careers Education and Pathways

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open Monday and Friday 7.30am – 11.00am and Wednesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

St Brendan's College uniform hours of operation and ordering are now online!

<https://www.stbrendans.qld.edu.au/enrolments/uniform-s-stationery/>

General News

A reminder to parents to please ensure your students clothing is clearly named, preferably with sewn on labels with their name (and laundry number – for boarders). We often have large numbers of unmarked items in both the laundry and at student reception.

Date Claimers

19 March	Interhouse Cross Country (CANCELLED)
31 March	End of Term 1

Term Dates for 2021

Term 1:	27th January – 31 March
Term 2:	19 April – 18 June
Term 3:	12 July – 15 September
Term 4:	5 October – 25 November