



Term 1 | Week 4 | February 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Last week we celebrated our Opening School Mass and presentation of badges to our new school Leaders. I thought I would share my opening comments with you.

To the wonderful St Brendan's Community - welcome to the beginning of the school year.

I would like to start by expressing my gratitude to all involved with our Community, the staff, the parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, friends and most importantly to the children.

Girls and Boys, I am forever grateful and thank you for the wonderful smiles, the hellos, the jokes, visiting me for lunch, sharing your work with me and sharing your ideas on how to make our great school a better place. I am looking forward to a wonderful year with all of you!

Yesterday as a staff we discerned (which means, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit) we looked at how we could Walk Together as a Community.

Today as we present badges to our school leaders, we are reminded of the words of St Peter that were shared with staff yesterday. He teaches us that in order to walk and journey with others, we need to recognise and utilise our gifts for the sake of God.

This means that each of us has been blessed with different gifts from God. When you, elected as Leaders by your peers, carry out your roles as leaders, pray to God for strength and help.

Your task for this year is to help the wonderful community of St Brendan's become even better, and, following the steps of St Mary of the Cross, MacKillop, never see a need without doing something about it!

Craig McNee

Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Your child is warmly invited to participate in the sacrament of First Reconciliation through our parish, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour –St Mary's, Toukley and St Brendan's, Lake Munmorah. Reconciliation is for children in Year 4 and above who have been Baptised and Confirmed. There is an online booking form that has been shared in Compass. The preparation sessions will also be held via Zoom.

St Brendan's

Click this [link](#) to enrol for First Reconciliation on Wed, April 6, 3:30 pm:

St Mary's

Click this [link](#) to enrol for First Reconciliation on Wed, Mar 30, 3:30 pm or Thurs Mar 31, 3:30pm:

Thank you,
Alli Foskett and Jacqui Fletcher

Altar Servers

We will be having training for students who are interested in becoming Altar Servers for School Masses. This training will occur with our Parish Priests and Mrs Jacqui Fletcher or Miss Alli Foskett. Altar Servers must have made their First Holy Communion, therefore students in Year 4 and above. We will be sending home a Compass permission note shortly. It is a wonderful way to support our School and Parish faith life.

THE COMMUNITY COTTAGE



1 in 5 children are cyberbullied



Less than 50% of parents feel confident dealing with online incidents

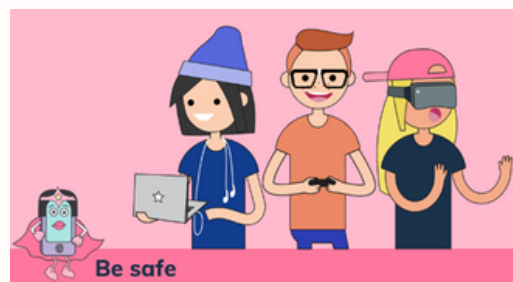
Last week was [Safer Internet Day](#) where everyone was called on to play it safe and fair online. The three most common online safety risks are [harmful content](#), [unsafe/risky contact](#), and [cyberbullying](#). So how can you protect your children from these risks?

Here are some tips to help:

- Be engaged, open and supportive – share online time with your children, let your child know they can always come and speak to you no matter what (most children do not tell their parents things that happen as they fear their devices will be taken away). If you notice any changes in behaviours talk to them
 - Set some rules – set some age-appropriate rules for devices and internet access. Talk to your child about not sending anything to anyone you would not be okay with the entire world seeing or reading. Review these rules as your child gets older
 - Use technology so you know what your children are doing.
- ➡ There are a range of apps (messaging, anonymous, disappearing, picture/video and vault) make sure you know the pros and cons to using them [Know Before You Load App Reviews - Australian Council on Children and the Media \(childrenandmedia.org.au\)](#)
- ➡ Set up parental controls [Taming the technology | eSafety Commissioner](#)
- ➡ Speak to your child before you share one of their photos and ask them if they are okay with that happening

ESafety Kids has tips on how to:

- Be safe
- Be curious
- Be kind
- Be secure



➡ ESafety Commissioner has a range of tip sheets, downloadable resources, and webinars to help you navigate the online world. They also have online safety picture books that can help to explain these topics to little ones [Parents | eSafety Commissioner](#)

➡ [School-age screen time: tips for balance | Raising Children Network](#) has some tips for balancing screen time

If you are facing challenges, feeling stressed, struggling with returning to school or just need to talk to someone please reach out to [The Community Cottage](#).

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS



If you are available on a Monday or Wednesday morning between 8-9 am we would love you to volunteer to help out in the clothing pool, please complete this [form](#) to register your interest.

1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING PARENT COURSE

Learn to manage difficult behavior in children 2-12 years old

A five-session program for parents and carers
at
St Brendan's Lake Munmorah School Hall
on
Monday 21, 28 Feb and 7, 14, 21 March 2022
Or
Wednesday 23, Feb and 2, 9, 16 and 23 March 2022

Learn:

- How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- How to sort behaviour
- How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
- Choosing your strategy, the three choices
- Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
- 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Parents will receive:

- A 1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Workbook

Register for this course by completing [this form](#) or contacting - St Brendan's Family Liaison Officer - rebecca.leahy@dbb.catholic.edu.au



St Brendan's Playgroup



**EVERY
TUESDAY
8:30 - 10:00**

**Starting
Feb 22**


St Brendan's Catholic
Primary School Hall



FUN & CREATIVE INDOOR ACTIVITIES

Playgroup is for newborn to school age children and is a great place to get to know other parents and carers in our local community. There is no cost and everyone is welcome!

Morning tea is provided

*Playgroup will be held weekly for the rest of the term (Covid restrictions permitting- Covid safe practices in place.

Staff Spotlight



Name: Madeleine Loneragan (Mrs L.)

My Class: The Hive

Birthday: March 7

Siblings: An older brother and a younger sister

Favourite Food: Cheese and pickle sandwiches, or gingernut biscuits.

Favourite Colour: Green

Do you have any pets? If so what type of pet? I have 2 dogs - a black Labrador called Duke, and a brown Cavoodle called Hobie.

What is your favourite thing to do on the weekend? I love bushwalking, swimming at the beach, and watching cricket on the TV.

What is your favourite hobby? I love to snorkel and scuba dive, and I like to bake sweet things.

Anything you'd like us to know about you? I love working in The Hive because I get to help some very special kids achieve great things in their own individual way. I love that we work closely with our students' families and that our Hive students make every day an adventure!

Name: Karen Devlin

My Class: Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two in the Library.

Birthday: November 11

Siblings: 2 sisters and 1 brother.

Favourite Food: Everything.

Favourite Colour: Orange.

Do you have any pets? If so what type of pet? None of my own but my children have dogs.

What is your favourite thing to do on the weekend? Spend time with my family, I have 4 children (1 x daughter and 3 x sons) and 1 grandson.

What is your favourite hobby? Reading.

Anything you'd like us to know about you? I still have all of my books from when I was a little girl.



LIBRARY NEWS

Library borrowing days for each grade are as follows

Kindergarten - Tuesday

Year 1 - Monday

Year 2 - Tuesday

Year 3 - Thursday

Year 4 - Thursday

Year 5 - Wednesday

Year 6 - Wednesday

SPORT NEWS



Congratulations to Chaise A. who trialled and made the Broken Bay Boys Basketball team. He will go to Tamworth and trial to get into the Polding Basketball team. Best of luck Chaise.

Congratulations to Rain R. who recently qualified for the State Athletics Championships in March at Homebush. Rain has qualified in 4 events for the State Championships.

- 9-year girls long jump
- 100-metre sprint
- 70-metre sprint
- 60-metre hurdles

Best of luck Rain.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Kiss & Drop Signs

If you are using Kiss and Drop to collect your child/children after school, it is a huge help if you could have your family name displayed on the sun visor of your vehicle. If you use Kiss and Drop and would like a name sign laminated for you, please complete [THIS LINK](#) and we will send one home for you shortly.

Compass

Just a reminder that you only need to enter an absence for your child/children on Compass if they are away for a whole day. If they come to school late or leave early, they will be signed in by our lovely Office ladies.

Clothing Pool

Please direct all requests for items from the clothing pool to The Community Cottage via this [email](#). Your request will be processed and you will be contacted when your items are ready for pick-up. Please do not call the Office for clothing pool enquiries.

The Community Cottage email address is thecottage@dbb.org.au

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Term 1

21 Feb	<i>Kinder Red Parent and Carer Meet and Greet</i>
22 Feb	<i>St Brendan's Playgroup - every Tuesday</i>
23 Feb	<i>Kinder Blue Parent and Carer Meet and Greet</i>
24 Feb	<i>Kinder Green Parent and Carer Meet and Greet</i>
25 Feb	<i>Whole School Assembly</i>
1 March	<i>Shrove Tuesday</i>
2 March	<i>Ash Wednesday - 3-6 Mass, K-2 Liturgy</i>
14 Mar	<i>Athletics Carnival</i>
22 Mar	<i>Kindergarten 2023 - Enrolment Information Sessions</i>
24 Mar	<i>Kindergarten 2023 - Enrolment Information Sessions</i>
8 April	<i>Last Day Term 1</i>