



Term 2 | Week 8 | June 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



I hope all enjoyed a lovely long weekend with loved ones. The weather was beautiful but a little chilly! I am so proud of how our community supported our Winter Appeal as some don't have the luxury of rugging up on these cold nights and your contributions will go a long way to help those in need!

Although sad for us, I ask that you join me in congratulating Mr Will Granger and Miss Amanda Pilley who will be leaving our community.

Amanda, who worked as part of The Cottage team, has taken a Counsellor position with the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese and Will has taken up a position as Assistant Coach with the Sydney Flames - as Will said, a hard decision but an amazing opportunity! Will will finish at the end of this Term.

We thank both for their commitment to our children and wish them all the very best for the future.

Have a great fortnight,
Craig McNee
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Eucharist

We are very excited for the children in Years 4, 5 and 6 who will be making their First Eucharist (Holy Communion) this weekend. Join us for the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm or the Sunday Mass at 8:00 am.

**May you always know the PEACE of Jesus,
the LIGHT of His Love,
and the JOY of His life within you.**

You are always welcome at our Church to celebrate Mass with our Parish Community.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

You have done it again! We are so humbled by your donations of food, clothing, blankets and money for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.

On Friday we raised a total of **\$730.00**. In addition to this, all of our baskets for collections in the Hall are full.

A big thank you to Mrs Maureen McDonnell, Miss Elly Dwyer and their team of Mini Vinnies kids who made a variety of items for sale on Friday. All proceeds were donated directly to the Winter Appeal. We are grateful for your missionary service at our school.

A special shout out to Layla, Nevaeh, Sophie and Ruby who came up with the initiative of making loom bands and donated their own looms for this Mini Vinnies initiative.

The community spirit at St Brendan's is truly alive and well. **Thank you!**



Sacred Heart Of Jesus Mass

On **Friday, 24 June 2022** you are welcome to join Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 as they celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotional Mass recognises Jesus' great love for us, as symbolised by His heart.



(c) Stephen B Whatley

THE COMMUNITY COTTAGE

How to deal with separation issues at school



Post Covid, there have been a few families finding separating from their children before school challenging.

There can be many reasons for this and seeing your child unsettled and anxious can be stressful and upsetting for parents, but we need to be mindful that anxiety loves anxiety so if you are worried about the school routine it is likely that your child will be too.

There are lots of strategies you can do at home to make separating easier for you.

The night before:

- Talk about how the morning will look and what will happen when your child arrives at school. Kiss and Drop is a great place to utilise if you are having separation issues with your child
- Make sure you are organised the night before with school uniform laid out, lunches organised and shoes and school bag ready by the door. This will help you avoid any stress in the morning and you can spend some quality time with your child before school talking about all the exciting things they'll be doing in their class that day
- If you prefer to walk your child into school, talk about what is going to happen when you arrive at school, how long you are going to stay and how you expect them to go into their classroom calmly. Remember less is more here - too much talk can overwhelm a child so keep it simple
- Talk about your morning routine-wake up, hugs and kisses, get dressed, have breakfast, brush teeth. Devices are not recommended before school.

At school:

- Remind your child what you talked about in the morning and that you'll be leaving soon but will be back as soon as school is finished
- Give your child a quick hug and say goodbye. It is best to leave without going back for 'just one more' hug as this can make things worse

- It is best NOT to turn back even if your child cries. School is a safe place, and children settle very quickly once the school day begins and their parents are out of sight
- Be happy at the end of the day to see your child - tell them how proud you are that they enjoyed their day at school
- Remember to always be positive when talking about school. School is a safe, fun place
- If separating with your child becomes an issue or lasts for longer than a short period of time, make sure you speak to your child's teacher. Your child's teacher will be able to ensure that there are no friendship issues or anything else that may be affecting your child's enjoyment of school
- Most importantly be consistent and stay calm.

For more information

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/school-learning/school-refusal/school-refusal>

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

SPORT NEWS

Family Sporting Success!

Congratulations to Elliott R who competed in the NSW U10 Softball State championships (2-day tournament) held in Sydney on June 4-6. He was chosen to represent the Central Coast which led to him being picked up by the Orange District team. His team didn't place, but he had the right attitude and did his personal best. This is the second time Elliott has played at the State Representative level.

Congratulations also to Alexa R who competed in her first local bouldering competition at Warners Bay on June 3. She placed first in her division for Heat 1! The competition has another three weeks to go, but winning Heat 1 was a great achievement. Good luck in the future Heats Alexa!



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

STEP 5: show, don't tell

Seven Steps Writing Tips for Families

what is it?

SHOW:

'Your turn to do the dishes, Tank,' said Mum.

'Yeah, later,' he said yawning and turned the TV louder.

'No, now,' said Mum. She stood in the doorway, arms crossed. She knew 'later' in Tank's mind meant somewhere between never and infinity. Once, as punishment, Mum put all the dishes and saucepans Tank had forgotten to wash on top of his bed. He just dumped them on the floor. A week later they were still there, a shoe in the spaghetti sauce, sweaty socks on the plates and a really bad smell wafting out the door.

Our job as writers is to create pictures in the brains of our readers. That's what Show, Don't Tell is all about.

TELL:

My brother is lazy.

Ah, now we 'see' it. It takes much longer to write, but our readers are far more convinced.



TOP TIP

Encourage your children to 'prove' important things in order to really convince the reader.

For example, what shows you Jake is a great friend?

Answer: He ate the biscuits I made that tasted like wet cement.



action activities

Test how words form pictures in our minds by slowly reading these sentences aloud:

- The red poppies stood tall and cheerful in the glass vase.
- There's a baby elephant sleeping peacefully under the lemon tree in our garden.

Discuss what you and your children pictured




ST BRENDAN'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Lake Munmorah

HIGHER ABILITY and GIFTED LEARNERS

Kindergarten Red

In Kinder Red we are introducing word problems in Mathematics. Word problems such as the one below are a great way to engage higher-order thinking skills. The open-ended nature of this task means that it is accessible to students of all ability levels, while still engaging and extending our higher ability learners.

Head and Feet



On a farm there were some hens and sheep.
Altogether there were 8 heads
and 22 feet.
How many hens were there?

Why do this problem?

This problem is a fantastic opportunity for learners to apply knowledge of place value and offers a context for learning and practising the relevant vocabulary (odd, even, multiple). The interactivity will help learners satisfy their curiosity in the sense of finding a 'better' solution, as it enables them to play around with the digits without having to commit anything to paper. This act of deciding whether one solution is better than another also provides a meaningful context in which to compare and order numbers.

CANTEEN NEWS

Children are welcome to bring cash to the canteen at lunchtime for snacks.

Please continue to order Recess and Lunch through Compass.

What to do on Compass

- If your child is in Sick Bay and you have been notified that you need to collect them from school, please do not sign them out at the Compass Kiosk, instead notify the Office Staff that you have arrived, and they will sign them out of sickbay
- If you are collecting your child early, you will need to sign them out using the Compass Kiosk
- If your child is away and you select "Other Explained Absence", we ask that you provide a short blurb as to why they are away, explaining their absence
- The only reason you would select "Travel" when submitting an attendance note is if you have extended holiday leave approved by the Principal. This option is not if you are running late.

These procedures are in place as they are regulations by the NSW Department of Education.

Winter Uniform and Clothing Pool

We now ask that all students are wearing their full winter uniform. Click [here](#) to access Cowan & Lewis for all your school uniform needs. We do have a limited range of winter items available in our clothing pool which is open Friday mornings 8:00 am - 9:00 am. We have many families in need of the clothing pool, we ask that you only take one item of each style of clothing that you need.

All clothing pool items are a **gold coin donation**.

If your child is not in the correct uniform please ensure they have a note explaining why - just so we know that it is not their choice!

Staff Spotlight



Name: Maggie O'Brien

Role at St Brendan's: 1 Blue Classroom Teacher

Birthday: 11 June

Siblings: Two older sisters and a brother (I'm the youngest)

Favourite Food: Pizza! Pasta is a very close second.

Favourite Colour: Yellow

Do you have any pets? A cat named Meng (which is the Balinese word for cat)

What is your favourite thing to do on the weekend? Definitely spending time with my family

What is your favourite hobby? Reading

Anything you'd like us to know about you? I have a cheeky little ten month old daughter named Bobbie who keeps my husband and I busy and smiling

Name: Madeline Martin

Role at St Brendan's: 1 Green Classroom Teacher

Birthday: 30 January

Siblings: I am the eldest of 4. I have 1 sister and 2 brothers

Favourite Food: Pizza and ice-cream

Favourite Colour: Aqua

Do you have any pets? No I don't have any pets at the moment, but in the next year or two I'd love to get a puppy

What is your favourite thing to do on the weekend? To go away on a quick camping trip and relax on the beach

What is your favourite hobby? Fitness and exercising, as well as planning our renovations.

Anything you'd like us to know about you? My husband and I are expecting our first baby soon. It's a very exciting time.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Term 2

18 June	First Eucharist Mass
21 June	St Brendan's Playgroup
23 June	Cyber Safety Workshop 8:30 am
23 June	Parent Advisory Group Catch-up - 6 pm School Hall
24 June	Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass 11:00 am - Yr. K-2 <i>hosted by Kinder</i>
28 June	St Brendan's Playgroup
29 June	CC Soccer Gala Day Yr. 5 & 6
30 June	NAIDOC Week Liturgy - 9:00 am
30 June	Last Day Term 2; Whole School Assembly at 2 pm
1 July	CSBB Staff Development Day/Pupil Free Day

Term 3

18 July	First Day Term 3
3 Aug	School Photos

**Children's Liturgy St Brendan's Church - Saturday 25 June
5:00 pm**