

# Red Bend Catholic College



A local community of Mission within the Australian Marist Community

Newsletter



## Principal's message | Mr Stephen Dwyer

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back and wish you a Happy New Year. It is so pleasing to see the College come back to life as the students return. We welcome over 184 new students to our community this year. A warm welcome to all new families who have joined our Red Bend family.

On Wednesday this week we celebrated as a whole school community our Commencement Mass in gratitude for the many blessings we have and with a sense of faith and hope to pray for guidance and protection throughout the year. We were blessed to have Bishop Columba McBeth-Green celebrate with us, and special guests Dr John Robinson the regional Director of Marist Schools Australia, Dr Mark Turkington chair of our College Advisory Council, Mrs Elizabeth Gallagher Compliance and Safeguarding Officer from Marist Schools Australia and Nathan Ahearn, Mission and Life Team, Marist Schools Australia join us.

At this celebration, our Marist theme for 2021 Breathe- The Spirit of Life was introduced. Perhaps nothing connects us more intimately than our breath. As we breathe-in, we feed and nourish our physical bodies and nurture our inner life. But we can't hold our breath. After being fuelled by the breath of the love of God, we are compelled to breathe out, to give life to others and creation (Ezk 37:1-14). We are challenged to take up Pope Francis' invitation to become more consciously guardians of creation, as well as our brothers and sisters in humanity.

Perhaps the moment has never been so urgent to take care of our planet and each other as we face together the uncertainty of an evolving pandemic and its impact on the deterioration of life through social isolation, chronic loneliness, snowballing anxiety, economic uncertainty, and the loss of livelihood and life: "The virus of social injustice is as big a challenge as the medical response to COVID-19" (Pope Francis, August 19).

May 2021 be an opportunity for us to invite the Spirit of Jesus to enliven, energise, empower and unite us: The Spirit of the Lord is upon us! (Lk 4:18). Let us give thanks that we have been breathed to life in God and share in Elihu's prayer of gratitude: "The spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life." (Job 33:4)

It is with pleasure that we welcome the following new staff to the College

Mr Alex Denley- English  
Mr Sumit Giri- HSIE  
Mr James Gough- English and Religious Education  
Mrs Hannah Graham- Science Faculty Coordinator  
Mr Caleb Hanrahan- PDHPE and Religious Education  
Miss Talia Harding- Religious Education and HSIE  
Miss Kim Lawson- Creative Arts and TAS  
Miss Lee-Ann Kervin- English and Religious Education  
Mr William Lovatt- HSIE  
Mr Sandesh Pathak- Mathematics and IST  
Mr Matthew Preeo- Mathematics  
Miss Kelly Price- HSIE and English

Mr Sam Rogers- Maths  
Ms Ari Summa-Kenny- Learning Support teacher and English  
Mr Peter Tenhave- Learning Support teacher and Mathematics  
Miss Aleisha Ward- PDHPE and Science  
Mrs Karen Knight- Learning Support Officer  
Mr Chris Favelle- Boys Boarding Supervisor  
Mr Andrew Redden- Maintenance

We acknowledge new members of staff who in maintenance commenced later last year Mr Tom Lawler and Mr David Spry, Mrs Lucy Pearce in the Canteen, Ms Corrie Barklmore in ICT and Mrs Katherine Vasconcelos who joined the Learning Support team in Term 4.

We also welcome back Mrs Cassandra Bird, Mrs Dorothy Haley and Mrs Mirella Peters.

There are also some new roles and changes in roles for 2021.  
Mr Jonathan Morell- Assistant Science Coordinator  
Mr Brad Flick- Aboriginal Education Officer and Learning Support Officer.  
Mr Sam Coote- Basil House Coordinator- 2021  
Mrs Jenny McDean- Director of Students- term 1  
Mr David Riddington- McAuley House Coordinator- term 1

I thank these staff for taking on these permanent and acting roles.

At assembly in week 1 we were pleased to acknowledge and award our high achieving students from the Year 12 class of 2020. These students who received a band 6 result, that being a mark of 90 or above in individual subjects were presented with awards. We congratulate these students who achieved outstanding results through their conscientious attitude and approach to learning. We were also very pleased to present the Dux award to the highest achieving student Hannah Mattiske. Hannah's outstanding achievement was built on determination, hard work and taking hold of every opportunity open to her. Hannah's speech gave us great insight into what successful learning looks like. A copy of Hannah's speech is on the next page. Congratulations to the class of 2020, and we wish them every blessing as they now move into various post-school opportunities in tertiary, career and workplace options.

Even with some uncertainty for the year ahead, we move forward into 2021 with new insights and experiences from 2020 that hold us in good stead with hope for the future, as we inspire the minds, hearts and spirits of those in our care. I wish you all every blessing for the year ahead.

We pray that Mary our Good Mather and St Marcellin Champagnat continue to watch over our community.

# 2020 Dux - Hannah Mattiske

Good Afternoon everyone,  
I stand here today as your DUX of Red Bend for 2020. I am honoured to be awarded the title. It recognizes the success that I have achieved through the consistent hard work and dedication that I have applied over the past years. I did not achieve this title on my own. It required so much effort from those around me, from the dedicated teachers that read through so many of my draft assessments, drilled key concepts into my brain, and gave up their time for extra study sessions when we really needed them, to my friends and family, who were there to support me through the stress of the HSC.

But although I may have finished year 12 with the highest ATAR, I do not doubt or discount my year group, as well as the whole student body, for their own outstanding efforts and achievements over the last year. This year has thrown so many curve balls not only at the class of 2020 but all students. We have experienced online learning and its difficult internet connections and missing out on much needed time with our friends here at school. Yet, all of us have prevailed through, working so hard to achieve our best. For this, I commend all of you for getting through school and the craziness of 2020.

I am not going to lie, to achieve dux I had to put in a lot of effort and hold myself accountable throughout the last couple of years at high school. Many hours of last year were dedicated to studying and revision helping me achieve my best during my HSC. Through this I learnt many skills and tips, to help me succeed whilst maintaining a positive work-life balance and make my last few years here at Red Bend memorable and enjoyable. I know most of you here are probably not interested in gaining this title yourself, but I want to leave you with a few pieces of this advice to help you through your years here at red bend.

I love being outside and active, and the idea of sitting at a desk for long hours complete schoolwork and study repulsed me. I would rather be helping on the farm or spending time with my friends. But I had to persevere, and through this that I found that time management is key. Instead of procrastinating and falling into the trap of endlessly scrolling through Instagram, leading to stress when your homework due tomorrow is still not done at 11pm, I planned my afternoons after school and designated times for each subject for homework and study. This ensured that I focused

on all my subjects and still had time to do the things I wanted, like watching Netflix or taking my dogs for a walk. I also found study techniques that suited me, like flashcards and Edrolo's lifesaving videos, which made revising key concept more enjoyable and effective than just rereading study notes.

I also urge you to get assessments done before the due date. I say this knowing that I only started writing this speech last night, and trust me, the stress that comes with a short deadline is not fun. Instead, its better to get assessments started as early as possible, and get drafts handed in because, with feedback, an assessment can jump up by so many marks. It also helps prevent the dreaded stack of assessments that need to be finished in only a few days.

I would also advise all you enjoy every second of school. Get involved, try out for the teams, whether it be cattle, netball, or chess, join committees, and have a good time hanging out with your friends at recess and lunch. Do not let your time at school just be about never-ending schoolwork, assessments, and exams; let it be a place where you can make laughs and memories with your friends and peers. This makes your time here more enjoyable and maintains a good balance between work and fun during your time here, and trust me, you will miss it a bit when it is gone.

I would like to thank all of you for listening to me today. I wish you all the best for your remaining time here at Red Bend.

Thank you.



# Commencement Mass

10 February, 2021





## Deputy Principal's message Mr James Metzeling

Dear All,

I wish to offer everyone in our community the warmest of welcomes back. I hope you have enjoyed having quality family time with your children over Christmas and that you are looking forward to the upcoming year as much as we are here at the school. I know personally it was nice to be able to spend time with my family during this time.

Upon return, the students have graced us with their friendly demeanour, it has been nice to hear the stories from students of what they did over their holidays, and it has been a pleasure to welcome new students into our community.

We have spoken to the students at Assembly over the last two weeks about our expectations and what we want to focus on this year. I explained to the students that the big things we are going to focus on this year were the following:

- Consistent Expectations of Students
- Academic – Continue to challenge themselves.
- Culture – A stronger emphasis on Service and Gratitude
- Continued Pastoral Care Program
- A greater emphasis on learning and educating students and staff about current societal issues including Cybersafety, Bullying and Social Media concerns.

Some time back I was out shopping with Nikki and the kids and I remember seeing this statement in one of the shop windows and I think it has some real merit. It read:

“Don’t Judge each day by the harvest you reap, but the seeds that you plant.”

I found this very interesting and it got me thinking about how that message can transfer to what we do here on a daily basis. I found it pleasing on reflection that this statement was a lot like parenting, teaching and supervising the students in our care. Quite often we do not see the instant rewards for the work we put in with the students and the same can be said for all children. Quite often students want to see the instant rewards for their hard work and sometimes get disappointed when things just don’t happen straight away, but it is important that sometimes we stand back and hope that our hard work in their early years will pay off as they become older and wiser. It is this hope and belief that keeps us coming back year after year and makes all those sleepless nights worrying about our children worthwhile. Knowing that the teaching/care and guidance we provide now will pay off in the future.

### **New Email Groups and how to contact staff**

This year we have changed the email addresses for some staff and made them more role specific rather than person specific.

Therefore if you need to contact Members of the Executive, House Coordinators, Faculty Coordinators then you can do so through the group emails on the following page. Please rest assured that the emails still only go to the one person in the role and not all members of the department. There are also a number of other contacts listed on the next page that will also help when you need to contact a staff member at the school

Last week we started using school stream. This is a communications App that allows us to send out more information to families and in a more timely manner. I would encourage you to follow the instructions below and download the app. This will be our main method of communication going forwards and even permission slips etc will be able to be accessed via the App. Likewise this newsletter will also be pushed out via this platform. Please let us know if you are having any issues downloading or finding the App.

I wish you all a fantastic week and leave you with the following thought:

“Ships don’t sink because of the water around them; ships sink because of the water that gets in them. Don’t let what’s happening around you get inside you and weigh you down.”

God Bless



### **FEBRUARY**

16	CCC Cricket Selection - Girls
17	Ash Wednesday
18-19	YR 7 Retreat
24	Elevate Study Sessions - 10,11,12
24-26	Cattle Team - Canberra Royal
26	HOUSE Swimming Carnival

### **MARCH**

1-5	YR 12 Retreat
1	CCC Cricket Selection - Boys U15
	CCC Tennis Selections
7	OPEN DAY
8	YR 9 Reflection Day
9	DIO Swimming
10	Critical Pursuit - YR 9 & 10
	Parents as Partners
12-14	EXEAT Weekend
17	200 Years Catholic Education Celebration
	DIO Touch Football - Forbes
	In the Marist Way Staff Induction
22-30	YR 12 Formative Tasks
22	CCC Hockey Selections
23	DIO Football Trials (Soccer)
24	Western Rugby League Selections - Forbes
25	DIO Basketball
29	CCC Swimming
31	Cross Country
	CCC Touch Football
	YR 12 Parent Information Night
	LAST DAY OF CLASSES

**We apologise for the error but the school calendar had listed Monday 26 April as a Public Holiday, which it is not in NSW. Monday 26 April will be a normal day of school.**

# SCHOOL STREAM APP...

This will be our main way of communicating with parents. Please download the APP. If you need help, contact the College.

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## RED BEND CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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### COLLEGE STAFF AND CONTACTS

#### EXECUTIVE

*Principal* Mr Stephen Dwyer  
principal@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au

*Deputy Principal* Mr James Metzeling  
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*Director of Staff and Curriculum* Mrs Trish Martin  
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*Director of Learning & Teaching, & Compliance*  
Mrs Deb Wheeldon  
dltc@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au

*Director of Faith Formation* Mr Matthew Pearce  
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*Director of Students* Mr Ashley Hogan  
ds@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au

*Director of Boarding* Mr Steve Hooper  
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#### HOUSE COORDINATORS

*Basil* Mr Sam Coote  
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*Chisholm* Mr Stephen Schrader  
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#### YEAR 7 ADVISOR

*Year 7 Advisor* Mrs Danielle Scott  
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#### STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE

Mrs Brooke Holmes, Mrs Mahlah Molloy  
*If away from school:*  
Email: absent@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au  
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#### HEALTH CENTRE

*Health Centre Coordinator* Genevieve Wallace  
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#### FACULTY COORDINATORS

*Religious Education* Mrs Therese Glasheen  
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*Sport Coordinator* Mr Pat Rudd  
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*VET Coordinator* Mr Sam McCarthy  
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*Careers* Mrs Janice Little  
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*Absence from school is the leading cause of student failure.*



## Director of Faith Formation | Mr Matthew Pearce

Faith in a fortnight- Mr Matthew Pearce, Director of Faith Formation

It's great to see our community together once again after our holidays. We have so many opportunities at our College for participating in faith formation. In this newsletter, you will find a calendar of 'whats on' in ministry. Additionally, I will share with you several opportunities with the wider community to get involved in ministry. Below is one such an opportunity.

You are all invited all to participate in the national Marist Online Symposium, 'Alive in God', with Father Timothy Radcliffe OP on 2 March 2021: 5.00- 6.30pm (Australian Eastern Daylight Time). Drawing on his 50 years of ministry and leadership Timothy Radcliffe will explore and unpack our theme for 2021. His latest book, *Alive in God- A Christian Imagination*, was a foundation document inspiring our theme and informing the shape of our formation programs this year.

Liturgy Captain's Assembly Prayer Term 1 Week 1 assembly:

In our prayer today, let us remember all those in our world who are not able to go to school due to poverty, COVID restrictions or illness. Let us pray that we never take for granted how lucky we are to live in Australia.

Please join in our prayer together  
Lord, Use my eyes to see new friends  
Open my ears to hear my teachers  
Open my mind to learn new things  
Let my heart remember you are near when I'M afraid  
Help me to love others like you

### Mercy Moment at Red Bend - Liz Young rsm, College Chaplain

Late last year some Vinnies leaders got together to plan justice areas to focus on this year. They chose the environment for this term, and what an important topic! Our liturgy captains have taken it on for their House prayers and suggested that we hold them outside- surrounded by creation, reminding us of the Creator. Did you know that Pope Francis has added on to the traditional 'works of mercy' for all Christians and especially us Sisters of Mercy? The other works include feeding the hungry, visiting the sick and comforting the afflicted. But the two new ones are caring for our Common Home and gratefully contemplating God's world. In appreciating the environment's gifts to us, we find we need to protect and save it so that all life might thrive. Go green this term!

### SRC Update

Student Representative Council Assembly Report Term 1 Week 1 assembly:

Welcome back. I hope you have all enjoyed your Christmas holidays and are ready to get stuck back into another exciting term at school. The SRC is excited to be back this year, and help all students enjoy this term. We encourage you to put any suggestions you may have either on the online suggestion form, or the blue box in the library. If you tell us your suggestions and your name, we will be able to come back to you and refine the details. The SRC looks and goes through every suggestion as a team.

As we head into the term; we encourage you all to get involved in everything you can. This includes schoolwork, PC, year level retreats, sports, both Thursday afternoon sports for grades 7-10 and representatives sports. Last year was a bit different from anything we have experienced before but as we travel into 2021, we are able to get involved and enjoy all the things we missed out on last year. And as we experience high UV levels this month, don't forget to use sunscreen, wear a hat, and stay under shade where you can.

For those new, our Student Representative Council looks forward to representing you. We have plenty of members who are in years 8-11 who can listen and act on your suggestions, organise events and focus funds where we need it.

Last term, the SRC introduced the Brekkie Hub. The aim is to offer a healthy and freely available breakfast for all students which may include cereal, toast, yoghurt, and fruit. We will open the Brekkie Hub this Wednesday. The hub will be located each morning up in the senior ref. You can access this by entering up the main ref entrance.

Also, a reminder that our Thursday BBQ breakfasts start in week 2. More information next week.

We are the SRC and we are here for you.



### Hot Days

Protect yourself in **five ways** from skin cancer



**SLIP**  
on sun protective clothing



**SLOP**  
on SPF30 or higher sunscreen



**SLAP**  
on a sun protective hat



**SEEK**  
shade



**SLIDE**  
on sunglasses



**Inspiring Minds, Hearts & Spirits**  
**Red Bend Catholic College Student Ministry Schedule Term 1:**  
**2021 - Theme *Environment***



Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1</b> <b>1/2</b>		Assembly Prayer - Being Grateful			8am Communion (Chapel)
<b>2</b> <b>8/2</b>	9am Basil Liturgy	Assembly Prayer - Marist Theme	9:30am Commencement Mass	<a href="#">7:30am BBQ -</a>	8am Communion (Chapel) Vinnies gathering (library) <a href="#">3:40pm Outreach</a>
<b>3</b> <b>15/2</b>	9am Chisholm Liturgy First Week of Lent	Assembly Prayer - Start of Lent Year 7 Retreat "I have called you. You belong."	Ash Wednesday Liturgies	Year 7 Retreat 7:30am BBQ -	8am Communion (Chapel) Year 7 Retreat 3:40pm Outreach
<b>4</b> <b>22/2</b>	9am Denis Liturgy Second Week of Lent	Year 12 Retreat Assembly Prayer - World Day of Social Justice			8am Communion (Chapel) Vinnies gathering (library) 3:40pm Outreach
<b>5</b> <b>1/3</b>	Year 12 Retreat Third Week of Lent	Assembly Prayer - Year 12 Retreat The Potter Theme	Year 12 Retreat	Year 12 Retreat 7:30am BBQ -	8am Communion (Chapel) Year 12 Retreat
<b>6</b> <b>8/3</b>	9am Loyola Liturgy 11:30am Meals on Wheels Year 9 Reflection Day Fourth Week of Lent	Assembly Prayer - International Day of Happiness (20 Mar)/ Liturgy Captains Term 2 Liturgy Planning		7:30am BBQ -	8am Communion (Chapel) EXEAT
<b>7</b> <b>15/3</b>	EXEAT Final Week of Lent	Assembly Prayer - Holy Week	11am 200 Years Catholic Education Celebration	7:30am BBQ -	8am Communion (Chapel) 3:40pm Outreach
<b>8</b> <b>22/3</b>	9am McAuley Liturgy Project Compassion Week (RE Classes)	Assembly Prayer - Project Compassion		7:30am BBQ -	8am Communion (Chapel) Vinnies gathering (library) 3:40pm Outreach
<b>9</b> <b>29/3</b>	9am Xavier Liturgy 3:30pm Liturgy Captain workshop	Assembly Prayer - Marist Awareness Program	Vinnies Easter Raffle		

Holidays - Year 11 Marist Awareness Program 6-8th April to Western Sydney



In 2021, the English Faculty will be implementing a Sustained Silent Reading program to encourage a stronger reading culture amongst Year 7 students.

Research shows that 'young people appear to be reading books less frequently' and that 'engagement in reading for pleasure is in decline'. It has also been recognised that a key area of literacy development that is essential for students' future success is reading.

We acknowledge that many students do not read beyond their prescribed English texts and that unfortunately, there are less opportunities at home and school to promote leisure reading.

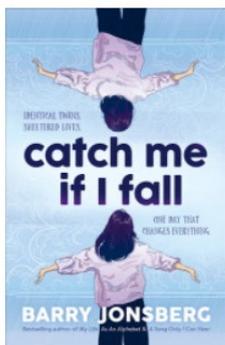
Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) will form part of each Year 7 English lesson. The program's goal is to promote a model of regular reading that improves students' literacy skills and motivation to read for pleasure.

We also encourage parents and caregivers to support this program at home and promote reading for enjoyment. Students can borrow books from the library, read online through e-books and they can also use audio books.

If you have any questions about the Wide Reading Program please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Anne Maree Rice | English Faculty Coordinator

## What's new in books



### Catch me if I Fall by Barry Jonsberg

Ashleigh and Aiden Delatour are identical twins, living a privileged lifestyle with loving parents. In a world that has fallen apart at the seams, they want for nothing. All they have to do is be there for each other, no matter what. But after Aiden suffers a terrible injury, he isn't the same brother Ashleigh always relied on. Something has changed and it will lead to a discovery that will turn their whole world upside down.

**Suitable for ages 11 - 14**

### Step Up, Shine On by Angela May George

Kat's got all the ingredients to go all the way. But she fails her exams- on purpose- to avoid the pressure of the top classes. She kills it in soccer, but never trials for the rep teams. She's happy to fly under the radar, unlike her oh-so-perfect Wonder Brother. But this year things are shifting. Not least in her friendships. Lavinia has defected to none other than The Triad of She-Wolves, but Kat's gained the new girl, the Goth, and after tutoring Bayani's brother, a boyfriend! When secrets are revealed and loyalties are tested, Kat discovers that it is time for her to step up... and shine!

**Suitable for ages 12 +**



Parent Information kits regarding this year's vaccination program will be sent out via post next week for all Year 7 students. The kit includes an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement. To consent to the vaccination parents / guardians are advised to:

Read all the information provided.

Complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive.

Return the completed consent form to Red Bend Catholic College before Friday 26th February.

Ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic. Parents will be informed once a clinic date has been set.

Parental/guardian consent is required for students to be vaccinated. Consent forms will only be accepted if they are completed using blue or black pen and are original (photocopied, scanned or faxed consent forms will not be accepted).

## PDHPE practical guidelines and expectations

All 7-10 PDHPE classes are completing swimming units for the first 7 weeks of the term and then also for the final 5 weeks of the school year in term 4.

The following uniform guidelines are in place for swimmers:

Swimwear:

Boys- Must change into appropriate swimwear, NO RBCC Sports Shorts, rash shirts are encouraged

Girls- no rbcc sports shorts. string bikini tops are able to be worn with a rashie shirt or a singlet swimwear top (not a cotton singlet top), swimming/sports crop top is allowed.

Dry practical activities:

Practical uniform:

The Red Bend Sports Uniform is to be worn for practical lessons Winter- you may wear your school hoodie however you must change into the school sports shirt.

On exceptional occasions e.g. boarders washing, casual clothing may be worn with a note from supervisors to state reasoning.

Unable to do Practical Class:

You must have a note with a credible reason. The note must have the reason written on it.

e.g Please excuse Jim from PE today because he injured his arm and is unable to do PE for three days.

The note must be signed by a parent, guardian, supervisor or Health Centre.

Health Centre Notes are to be obtained before school or during recess or lunchtime. The Health Centre will not accept you just turning up there without your PDHPE teacher signing your handbook during class time.

Forgot your gear:

You must bring the following to class and sit in delegated area.

PDHPE book  
Pencil case  
Student diary

No gear:

1st offence- Warning given. Worksheet, notes.

2nd offence- Worksheet, notes, demerit in handbook stating reason (lunch/recess detention).

3rd offence- Worksheet, notes, demerit stating reason, letter sent home plus Friday lunchtime detention.

4th offence- Refer to faculty Coordinator (Tuesday afternoon detention). School Hats

You are encouraged to wear a school hat for each practical lesson. You may be rewarded with merits for bringing the correct uniform regularly.

# Study Centre and study skills

Study Centre has started again for the year. This is a great way to get homework and assessments completed, ask for help from staff and also a quiet place to get some study done.

Times available:  
Monday: 3.30- 4.30pm  
Tuesday: 3.30- 8pm  
Wednesday: 3.30- 5pm  
Thursday: 3.30- 8pm

Transport is provided to Forbes and Parkes each afternoon at 4.30pm (Mon, Tues and Thurs) and 5pm on Wednesday.

Study Centre takes place in the Marcellin Library and Resource Centre. Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are encouraged to come along to the extended study (8pm) on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Dinner is provided to those that stay late.

Forms can be completed on the School Stream App.

If your child/ren have indicated that they are coming for the whole term, could you please call the College or email myself at [deborahwheeldon@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:deborahwheeldon@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au) if they will not be attending on a specific day or week so transport/supervision can be organised.

Thank you for your help.

## Study Skills

Study skills sessions for all students (7- 12) will commence again this term. Our focus is on helping students set SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-framed) goals that they can work on over the next 2 terms. Year 7 will spend some time on learning how to decode and understand assessment notifications as well.

Years 10, 11 and 12 are lucky enough to have a session on the 24th February run by a company called Elevate, that specialise in study skills. We have run these sessions for the last couple of years and all of the students have commented on how useful the presentations are. Years 7, 8 and 9 will have a session with Elevate next term.

I encourage all parents to talk to their children about their goals at school and how best they can support them. Please call me at the College, if you have any questions.

Parents as Partner Nights are back!

The first Parents as Partners night will be held on Wednesday 10 March from 6.30 – 8pm in the MPH. I encourage as many parents as possible to come along and learn about developing and enhancing resilience in your children, assessments, literacy strategies at Red Bend and basic numeracy concepts to be able to help your child/ren at home with homework and assessments. Please look out for the invitation to come on School Stream.

Class Structures for 2021

Please find below the structure of classes we have implemented in 2021:

- Yr 7: 6 classes (7 in English)  
Maths and English are streamed  
All other subjects are mixed ability classes
- Yr 8: 7 classes (8 in English)  
Maths and English are streamed  
All other subjects are mixed ability classes
- Yr 9: 7 classes (8 in English)  
Maths and English are streamed  
All other subjects are mixed ability classes
- Yr 10: 5 classes (6 in English)  
Maths and English are streamed  
All other subjects are mixed ability classes

Streamed class groups:

Across the year levels in English (Yr 7-10) and Maths (Yr 7-10), there are 2- 3 classes in each of the subjects that are of the same ability levels.

**CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE STUDY CENTRE FORM OR GO TO THE SCHOOL STREAM APP AND FILL IN DETAILS**

## Year 7

Year 7 have made a great start at Red Bend Catholic College.

On Monday morning, they were introduced to the rest of the school with a rousing applause. They then went to their House meetings where they found out which Pastoral Care class they were in. Handbooks (diary) and timetables were given out and each student was allocated with their own locker.

Year 7 had their first meetings and they were introduced to our Principal, Mr Stephen Dwyer and our Deputy Principal, Mr James Metzeling. The timetable was explained as well as other important information.

To assist our new students, the Year 7 teachers met their Year 7 classes at the COLA for each lesson and then to their classroom.

I would like to congratulate the group on the wonderful way they have embraced their new school. You should feel very proud of each and everyone of them. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns [year7advisor@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:year7advisor@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au)

Danielle Scott | Year 7 Advisor



# Student wellbeing - Pulse APP

As part of the Pastoral Care program for 2021 we are introducing a Student Wellbeing Pulse App where students are able to reflect on their wellbeing and engagement with a 60 second 'check-in'.

All students will have the opportunity to check in once a week and this can be done at school or home. The data collected is secure and it will allow the Wellbeing Team to gather real time information to then help with student wellbeing and engagement. The check in will not be made compulsory, however, during Pastoral Care classes we will be encouraging students to take the time to reflect on health so as to be able to better identify areas in which we can support students.

During the coming weeks the College will introduce the App to students through assemblies and Pastoral Care classes. Each student will be sent in invitation to download the app and they will be able to have access on their devices as well as phones (although phone use will be not allowed during school hours).

Students will be asked approximately 5-6 questions each week and will also ask the question about how they are feeling. If a student requires help the Deputy Principal and Director of Students will be notified immediately. The remaining questions remain anonymous and give information based on engagement.

The following Q&A sheet has also been provided to give you some further information. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to speak with the House Coordinators or the Director of Students.

## Clothing pool

We are in need of second hand uniforms for our clothing pool. If you have any that you would like to donate you can drop them into the front office.

## Year 7 Assessment Calendar

Year 7 Parent/Carers are able to access the Year 7 Assessment Calendar via the School Stream App.

To access the assessment via School Stream you will need to download the APP. There are instructions on the next page on how to do this.

In the upcoming weeks the Year 7 students will learn more about assessment and in secondary school. The College will guide the Year 7 students through what is an assessment, what are the rules and their responsibilities. If you have any questions about Year 7 assessment please do not hesitate to contact

## Student Wellbeing & Engagement FAQs for Parents

### 1 What is it?

Pulse is a tool for measuring the week-to-week wellbeing and engagement of students. It tracks the wellbeing of individual students so that the school can respond to those who express a need. It also tracks anonymised student sentiment about their engagement with the school so the school can make changes based on student voice.

### 2 Why are we doing it?

Research strongly indicates that measuring student wellbeing in a way that is both comprehensive and timely will enable schools to provide support at both the individual and cohort level. We are using Pulse to get more useful and actionable insight than traditional long-form wellbeing surveys.

### 3 How does it work?

Once a week, students will be prompted by email to complete a 'Check-in' on the app. The check-in consists of 5-6 questions.

### 4 How long does it take & how easy is it to use?

The entire process is very simple and we expect students will spend less than 5 minutes a week on the app. Students are asked to check-in on a weekly basis and are asked a small number of questions each week.

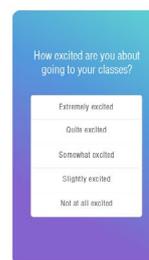
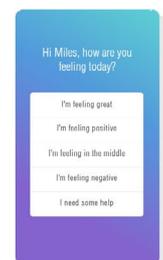
### 5 What is the impact on my child?

The goal is to have a positive experience and give our students a safe way to make their voice heard and give us their opinion on their experience at school.

### 6 What information are you collecting & who is going to see it?

We are collecting two kinds of information: Identified and Anonymous.

**Identified:** With each check-in, students will be asked 'How they are feeling?'. This question is asked every week and is 'identified' ie. the student's identity will be attached to their response. This is important if a student asks for help.



**Anonymous:** The remaining questions are all anonymous. The school will not be able to see the student's identity.

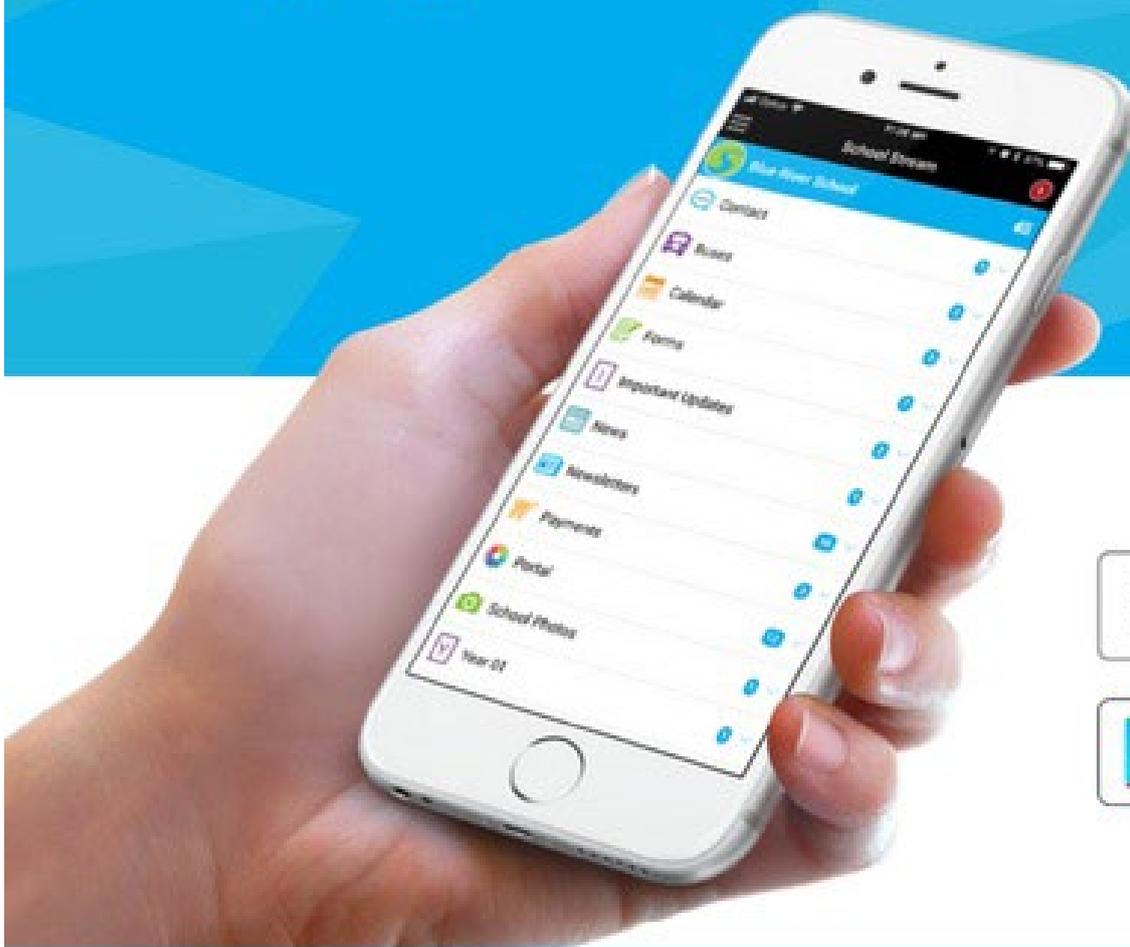
### 7 What happens if my child asks for help?

When we set up your child on the platform, they will be assigned an escalation point within the school if they need assistance and be given the option to be contacted by the relevant staff member. They will also be given the option to speak to someone else if they are uncomfortable with the first suggestion.

### 8 Who is Educator Impact?

Educator Impact (EI) is an Australian business that helps schools to improve their culture and student outcomes by connecting wellbeing, performance and engagement. They have worked with hundreds of trusted educational institutions. If you would like more information about Educator Impact, please visit their website.

# Download our school app for free!



# SPORT @ RBCC

On Thursday 11 February, 80 students competed in the Twilight Swimming carnival. It was pleasing to see so many competitors involved. Congratulations on your efforts!

A special thanks to Year 12 SLR, staff and the Forbes Fins Swimming Club who assisted at the carnival. Results from the carnival will be announced in the coming weeks. (Photos taken by Lucy Pearce - follow her page on Facebook 'Lucy Cambourn Photography')



## AROUND THE GROUNDS IN THE COMMUNITY

Congratulations to:  
Bayden Moran on making his debut for the Harold Matthews Penrith Panthers team, and on a great try!



Victoria Simpson for making the top 20 squad for the Australian Women's wheelchair basketball team.



It is pleasing to see these incredible efforts with sport in the community, and would be great to hear about more! (as I'm sure I may have missed some). If there are other incredible efforts please let myself know by sending an email to; [sport@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sport@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au)

Mr Rudd | Sport Coordinator

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Registrations are open for several NSWCCC 2021 pathway sports. More information can be found at [www.cnsnw.sport](http://www.cnsnw.sport) or contact Mr Rudd.

Sports include:

- Tennis- Boys & Girls- 1 March – Close 22 February
- Cricket – U16 Boys – 1 March – Close 18 February
- Baseball – Boys – 3 March – Close 26 February
- Golf – Boys & Girls – 8 March – Close 25 February
- Volleyball – Boys & Girls – 10 March - Close 5 March
- Water Polo – Boys & Girls – 15 March – Close 11 March
- Hockey – Open Boys & Girls, 16s Girls – 22 March – Close 15 March
- Diving – Boys & Girls – 29 March – Close 19 March
- House swimming Carnival 26/2/21