



*Inspiring Independence, Transforming Lives*

## Newsletter

Term 4, Week 1,  
8th October 2021



### Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Friends and Students of St Edmund's,

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope all families had an opportunity for some down time over the school holiday break, despite the lockdown, in preparation for what will be a very busy term.

### Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, whose Feast Day is celebrated today. Saint Pius V established this feast in 1573 with the purpose of commemorating the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The development of the rosary has a long history with legend telling us that the Rosary as a form of prayer was given to St Dominic by Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, who entrusted it to him as an aid in the conflicts with the Albigensians. The Rosary, when it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanical and superficial but profoundly, it brings in fact peace and reconciliation.

### Building Update

Over the school holiday break significant work was completed with the following milestones completed:

- ⇒ The roof is nearing completion with internal works to be carried out once our building becomes watertight;
- ⇒ Fit out of the switch room which will be energized once stage 1 is completed;
- ⇒ Air conditioning ducts and fit out has commenced;
- ⇒ Internal walls are being erected with doors and window frames soon to be installed;
- ⇒ Electrical and communication cabling well underway.

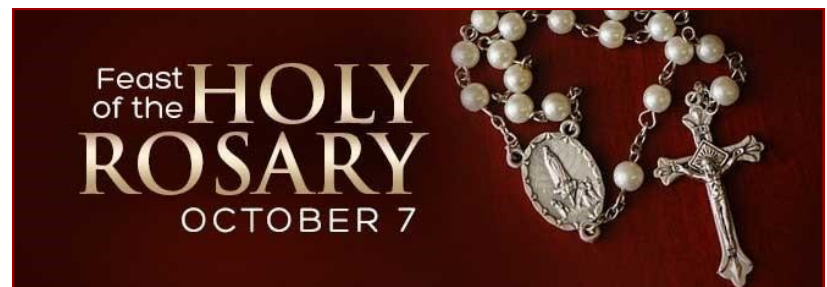
I take this opportunity to thank Rohrig for the enormous amount of work that has been completed despite restrictions to COVID-19. We look forward to ongoing developments with our new building over the coming weeks.

### COVID-19 Update

Please refer to the update that was sent home today regarding the adjusted return to school plan which was announced yesterday by Premier Perrottet. We are very much looking forward to students returning to the College and further advice will be provided in the coming weeks regarding our important end of year functions.

Best wishes for the week ahead.

Jon Franzin  
**PRINCIPAL**





## Deputy Principal's Message

As we begin Term 4, a reminder for students to ensure they bring their hats every day as well as a bottle of water. The warmer weather is already beginning to make an appearance and will continue over this coming term.

Personalised Plans were posted home during the holidays to families to set goals for students for this next cycle. Please get in touch with your child's Homeroom teacher if you have any questions regarding these plans.

### Attendance:

Please note that we will still be requesting the online attendance form to be completed in the next few weeks to ensure that we are adequately staffing the College. From the official Government start date for your child's year group (Week 3 – Year 12, Week 4 – all other year groups), this will no longer be necessary as it will be assumed that all students will return.

For those students who access school assisted transport you will need to get in touch with your child's driver to ensure that they are aware of when your child will join the taxi group again.

As we move back to more students returning on site, I wanted to remind you that student illness rules have remained the same. If your child is not feeling well, has a mild fever, running nose, vomiting or diarrhea, bad pain or coughing, they need to remain at home to rest and/or see your doctor. To be able to return to school, students require a negative COVID test and to be symptom free. Please ensure the negative result of your child's test accompanies your child's return to the College for our records.

Rebecca Kirwan  
Deputy Principal

## Important Dates

Please check below for changes to our previously advertised dates:

### Term 4

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Tue 12th Oct                | Swimming Carnival <b>cancelled</b>                            |
| Fri 22nd Oct                | Term 4 College Disco (current students only) <b>cancelled</b> |
| Thu 28th Oct                | Term 4 Men's Group Meeting                                    |
| Tue 2nd Nov                 | Term 4 Mufti Day  |
| Wed 10th Nov - Fri 12th Nov | Years 9 & 10 Camp <b>cancelled</b>                            |
| Tue 23rd Nov                | Term 4 Parent Group Meeting <b>online</b>                     |
| Tue 9th Nov                 | Orientation Day   |
| Fri 19th Nov                | Abbotsleigh Concert <b>cancelled</b>                          |
| Fri 26th Nov                | Year 12 Graduation Formal <b>to be advised</b>                |
| Tue 30th Nov                | Presentation Ceremony   |
| Fri 3rd Dec                 | Year 12 Farewell Mass   |
| Fri 3rd Dec                 | Last day of Term 4  |



## Braille with Luca

Some of our students and their parents may be interested to have a look at a former student's Braille business that he has started on Facebook!

[Facebook.com/braillebyluca](https://www.facebook.com/braillebyluca)



## Mission and Identity

As we return to some routines in our lives, at the College some of our usual events, celebrations and gatherings will need to be postponed or reimagined. There are various important rites of passage at the end of each year which we will mark and celebrate, maybe in a different fashion given the restrictions still in place for schools.

Our Sacramental program will need to be postponed until 2022 as Parishes are not conducting them this year. New initiations and reminders for reception of the Sacraments will be shared with families in the new year. Thank you for your understanding.

### Let us keep some time for inner growth ....

As we gradually return to our 'new normal' from this extended period of lockdown, it is important to acknowledge what we have missed. One key absence has been our ability to connect face to face in person with others. Our social connections are so important and it would be the number one thing that our students have truly missed during this time. What we have gained during lockdown however, was an opportunity to slow down, to reflect, ponder and find peace within ourselves. Let us not lose this gift; self-awareness and reflection are powerful tools for inner peace, personal growth and faith.

In this month of October, we focus again on Mary the mother of Jesus. A woman of deep faith, with an openness to trust, who took risks founded upon her deep awareness of God's presence in her life. She models for us an importance of prayer and reflection which we can also embed in our lives and in the lives of our children.

The rosary is a powerful spiritual tool for meditation. While meditation grows in popularity as a means to better mental, physical and spiritual health, many people, including many Catholics, overlook the rosary as a meditative tool. It is sometimes seen as too simple and therefore as superficial. The rosary is simple, but the gentle repetition of its prayers makes it an excellent means to move into deeper meditation. It gives us an opportunity to open ourselves to God's word, to refine our interior gaze by turning our minds to the life of Christ.

By focusing on the lives of Christ and Mary through meditation on the mysteries, we learn about ourselves in relation to God. Mary, herself, is an excellent model for the daily practice of meditation. She received the word of God through Gabriel. She pondered God's word in her heart. She took in the events around her, capturing them internally and carrying them within her like a treasure. This is the essence of meditation - receiving God's word and making it our treasure and our choice, "in meditative prayer God is always addressing our will. Christ confronts us and asks us to choose. Having heard his voice . . . we are called to life-transforming obedience." Meditation gives us the option to be transformed. We must choose it.

You may have objections. "I'm not a monk living in seclusion. I don't know a thing about meditation. How can someone like me meditate?" But meditation is for all believers, not just for monks like Thomas Merton. As Merton himself reminds us, we don't have to make meditation complicated to make it meaningful. The rosary contains the necessary elements for simple meditation. Praying it with "deep and simple concentration," recalling the events of the mysteries and pausing to think about them for a moment, can draw us into a deeper relationship with God - the goal of meditation.

It means reflecting on the words or images that each mystery brings to mind and remaining open to what God would have us understand about how those events relate to our lives. Don't try to force meditation, and don't make it complicated. Simplify it. Rosary meditation has shown me that some of the greatest soul-stirring moments take place in the gentle, ordinary events of everyday life. Mary had an everyday life - in her simple, humble ways, she had a child, cared for him and was a mother and wife. I have an everyday life - I get up each day, pay bills or clean house, say the rosary, and go on about my day. It is in these simple, ordinary things of life that meditation finds the great spiritual drama.

Jason Scanlon  
Assistant Principal, Religious Identity & Mission



## From the Parent Group

Hi everyone,

Well just like that it's Term 4 and it looks like we are going to start seeing a little bit of normality creep back into our lives. How wonderful! I hope you all managed to enjoy the Spring weather over the school holidays.

Thank you to everyone who has shared recipes for our cookbook. At the moment we have 17 recipes so it would be great if we could increase this quantity of recipes so we can make for a beautiful memento for our Eddie's in Lockdown Cook Book. We have extended our cut off for recipes to next Friday 15th October. Please send them to [jeastham74@gmail.com](mailto:jeastham74@gmail.com)

Please send

- 1) your favourite family recipe. You can use the template attached to this Newsletter if you wish; and
- 2) a photo of the dish

Janine Eastham  
Tom's Mum  
Parent Group Leader

## Awards online

### Eddie's Best:

**7F** Christopher  
**8T** Toby  
**9C** Sonnet  
**10M** Victoria  
**11J** Brendan  
**12G** Ciaran

**7V** Riarna  
**8P** Saskia  
**9E** Kate  
**10O** Dominic  
**11S** Bianca  
**12L** Shontelle

**All Eddie's Best recipients will have morning tea with Mr Franzin next Tuesday online. A Teams invitation will be sent out to those students.**





# recipe

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TITLE:

PREP TIME:

SERVINGS:

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RECIPE CATEGORY:

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## ingredients

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## method

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# Photo

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**NAME:**

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**CLASS:**

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# Invitation For Carers



BETTER LIFE FOR CARERS<sup>®</sup>  
*... make the change!*

## 6 –Workshop Online Course for Carers plus 2 Individual Coaching Sessions

***“A truly unique development and coaching journey for carers, helping them to make long-term changes in order to practise self-care, reduce stress, increase overall well-being, and to become a more skilled, balanced, resilient and more effective person and carer”***

### Features and Outcomes of the Journey Include:

- A forum to exchange stories, challenges and ideas
- An ongoing network to support one another
- An opportunity to learn more about yourself – the way you “Tick” and how this may help or hinder you in improving your life.
- Learn and apply techniques for setting and following through with realistic goals to implement real, positive change to create better balance and joy in life.
- An opportunity to build and maintain a habit of looking after yourself
- An opportunity to build your capacity and effectiveness as a carer.
- Actually doing it – not just learning about it!

For more information: <http://www.betterlifeforcarers.com.au/>

Tuesdays,  
19 Oct to 23 Nov,  
6:30pm to 9:00pm

(no daytime course  
this Quarter)

Location:  
Online (Zoom)

Max. 10 participants  
per course

Carers registered with  
the ‘Carer Gateway’  
or YourSide are likely  
to be eligible for full  
funding.

To find out more and  
express your interest  
go to  
[betterlifeforcarers  
.com.au/upcoming-  
events](http://betterlifeforcarers.com.au/upcoming-events)

