

February 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

My name is MJ Barben, and I am so excited to join the Prince of Peace Lutheran College team as the Junior School Physical Education Teacher. Previously, I have taught PE for two years at Northern Peninsula Area College in Bamaga. Most recently, I taught PE at both Manly West State School and Mabel Park State School.

I am passionate about sport and modelling a healthy and active lifestyle for my students. I have seen first-hand how powerful sport can be in breaking down barriers and stereotypes and allowing students to form positive relationships with their peers. I believe all students should be able to access the PE curriculum in a safe and supportive environment that is conducive to their learning and personal growth. I value all my students and the individual skills that each of them brings to our lessons, and I feel extremely blessed to be able to share my love of sport with your child.

Whilst I have an appreciation for all sports, I am particularly passionate about AFL and swimming. I am an avid Gold Coast Suns supporter and have been a member for the past three seasons. I also enjoy travelling (pre-covid), hiking and spending time at the beach. I have previously coached AFL and netball teams at a school level and have also developed and implemented Prep to Year 6 swimming programs across several schools. I hope to be able to utilise these skills during my time at PoP.

It is my goal to create and foster positive relationships with parents and students and to provide multiple opportunities for students to explore their athletic interests. I invite you to be an active participant in your child's education, as this will only help them to continue to grow in knowledge. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter of introduction. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. My email is MBarben@princeofpeace.qld.edu.au, which you can use to reach out to me most of the time, or feel free to ring (07) 3872 5700 during normal school hours.

Kind regards

MJ Barben



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