



# St Bernadette's School

Friday, 30th January, 2015

No.1

## Welcome to 2015!

A warm welcome is extended to all our children and families and to our staff - those returning and those who join our learning community for the first time this year. We hope that you enjoyed a relaxing holiday! 2015 looks to be an exciting one for St Bernadette's. Our theme for the year is

**"Renew, Adapt and Listen."**

**Renew** - recognise, celebrate build on and recommit to the successful initiatives in our learning community. In doing this we are able to continually focus our efforts on the needs of individual children and families.

**Adapt** - reflect on ways that we can improve and make our practices more relevant to our children and families and more reflective of real life purposeful learning. At St Bernadette's we are passionate about our children enjoying their learning, doing their personal best and growing in confidence through being continuously challenged.

**Listen** - make the deliberate choice to truly listen to our children and to each other by giving our full attention. It is through truly listening that we are able to understand how we can help our students to learn and understand what we can do to support them in their learning and ongoing development.

The teachers have been meeting since mid January to plan the learning programmes for your children and have some wonderful opportunities organised for them. There will be many occasions throughout the year when you will be invited to participate in activities with the children and the teachers look forward to your involvement.

I look forward to meeting each of you over the next weeks and personally welcoming you back to school.

**Leanne Nettleton**  
Principal

## Welcome to our new Kindies ...



357 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill NSW 2154. Phone: 9634 2898 Fax: 9680 2282

School email: [BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au)

WEBSITE: <http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au>

## ***From the Principal:***

### **Frequency of the School Newsletter**

Our school newsletter will be published every week and emailed to parents designated email account on a Friday evening. Our school newsletter coincides with our Student of the Week awards/Whole School Assembly. On the alternate week an 'Update' is emailed to parents.

### **School Notes and Emails**

As we continue with our 'environmental focus' at St Bernadette's with regard to paper use, we will be using the email facility to notify parents more and more rather than via paper. All excursions and notes that require a reply slip will still continue to be sent home via your child. Other information notes ie. Grade overviews, P&F notices etc, will be sent via your nominated e-mail account.

It is therefore important that you regularly check your emails for any information sent from the school. All school notes are uploaded to our website: *Parents/Notes from School/then your grade or whole school.*

### **Congratulations to our 2015 Kindergarten Children**

Today our youngest children commenced their schooling at St Bernadette's and what a lovely day they enjoyed! Congratulations to the children and their parents. We look forward to our Kinder families (and new families to the school) joining us at the Welcome BBQ on Friday 6th February 2015 5.30pm onwards.



### **Beginning of School Year Parent Teacher Interviews**

In response to Parent and Teacher feedback, this year teachers will be conducting 10 minute 1:1 interviews with parents instead of Parent Information Sessions. These interviews are opportunities for you to meet the class teacher and discuss your child. You are invited to book an appointment with your child's teacher using the School Interviews site. An email will be sent to all parents with full details shortly. General Grade information will be communicated to you by the teachers via Grade Overviews.

### **Support Programmes at St Bernadette's**

In 2015 we will offer the following support programmes in addition to the inclass support given to children K - 6:

- ⇒ 3 EMU Specialist Support programmes to Year One students requiring assistance in numeracy,
- ⇒ the Reading Recovery programme for those children in Year One who are having difficulty with beginning reading skills
- ⇒ an EMU specialist programme will be offered to Year 4 students requiring assistance in numeracy.
- ⇒ Early morning reading programme offered by the learning support staff
- ⇒ Counselling - student and family accessed via referral (please approach class teacher, Mrs Hord or Mrs Nettleton if you require information).

### **Student Workbooks**

This year you will have the opportunity to view your child's workbooks twice a term. This will help you to be informed about your child's learning as it is happening.



When your child brings home their books we encourage you to write a comment to your child in their book after their last piece of work. More information about which books will be coming home will be communicated in later newsletters.

## **Changes to Student Attendance Guidelines commencing 2015**

You will be aware of reports in the media that have referred to student's attendance at school – particularly in relation to discouraging children being removed from school during school term.

As part of the implementation of the newly formulated National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included in Student Attendance Data as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose. Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. If travel during school term is necessary the following considerations and procedures apply:

If the principal accepts the reason for the absence, the absence will be marked as "L" in the class roll. In such cases leave of ten (10) or more school days will require parents to submit a formal application for leave in writing. This letter of request should be addressed to the Principal prior to commencing the leave period, indicating the specific reason or purpose for the request of leave. You are requested to submit this letter at least 3 weeks prior to leave taking place.

If the principal does not believe the absence is in the student's best interests and does not accept the reason, the absence is deemed unjustified and will be recorded as "A" in the Class roll.

There is no longer a **Student Exemption Form**. Please discard any master copy that you have saved because it is no longer valid nor recognised by the Board of Studies.

## Anaphylaxis

At St Bernadette's this year there are a number of children who experience anaphylaxis - in particular a severe allergic reaction when they are exposed to peanuts and nut related products. If those children are exposed to these foods a severe allergic reaction can occur within 20 minutes of exposure and can rapidly become life threatening. Accidental exposure to these foods can happen at eating times and in the case of one of our students, the allergic reaction can be triggered when another person has touched or eaten these foods and then that person touches them.

As a community we can assist these children by making our school environment safe. We ask families to:

- NOT use peanut, nut and chocolate spreads when making and sending sandwiches to school.
- NEVER send nuts to school for your own child to eat
- remind children NOT to share their food with other children at school
- explain to your children the seriousness of food allergies for those children who are affected by them and that we can help to keep these children safe by the choices we make.



Should you wish to have more information about anaphylaxis this can be found at the Anaphylaxis Australia website [www.allergyfacts.org.au](http://www.allergyfacts.org.au).

*Thank you for your assistance with all that you do to help us provide a safe environment for all the children at St Bernadette's Primary School.*

## Award System at St Bernadette's

The children at St Bernadette's are recognised for their behaviour, work habits and school performance in many ways within the classroom, at various assemblies and through various award opportunities.



- Each Monday we recognise our Birthday children for that week
- In weeks 3, 5, 7 and 9 (in Term 1) children from each class will be recognised in the following categories:
  - Student of the Week
  - Social Skill
  - Merit certificates
- Behaviour leading to a Principal's Award—children then have a morning tea with Mrs Nettleton at the end of the term. A letter advises students of the date and time.
- At the end of each term two students from the entire student body are awarded the School Values Award.

Children will be acknowledged in newsletters to follow each of these awards so that our community can celebrate with the children.

## Social Skill: Being a great friend at St. Bernadette's.

Our social skill for Weeks 2 & 3 is looking at the ways we can be a great friend at our school. Within our class groups we have been discussing our school values and how they help us to be a friend.

With the start of a new school year we are welcoming to all we meet and endeavour to make new friends not only in our class, our grade but across the whole school.

We can do this by: getting to know people, being a good listener, accepting people as they are, asking them about themselves, being a positive person and talking about the good things in our school and at home.

If we all take the time to meet new people, nurture our existing friendships, then we create a very friendly school community.

Kathy Watt

## Parking in and around the school

Please adhere to the school and parish guidelines for parking within the school and parish car park

- Entry to the car park ONLY from Brisbane Road
- Drive with care and caution in the car park
- DO NOT park in the Kiss 'n Drop area
- NEVER double park at anytime in the school grounds
- DO NOT drive through the car park at the bottom of the driveway closest to Brisbane Road
- Comply with the requests of volunteer traffic monitors and teacher supervisors as they monitor the smooth running of the 'Kiss 'n Drop' and 'Car Pick Up' services
- Obey parking signage
- Be mindful and vigilant at each pedestrian crossing in the car park

When we all work together we will be able to look after the safety of our precious children.



## Sport Uniform Days— Term 1

Kindy: Tuesday & Thursday  
Yr 1: Tuesday & Wednesday  
Yr 2: Tuesday & Wednesday  
Yr 3: Tuesday & Thursday  
Yr 4: Tuesday & Friday  
Yr 5: Tuesday & Thursday  
Yr 6: Tuesday & Thursday



## TUCKSHOP

A reminder that the 2015 Tuckshop Menu was sent to all parents via email at the end of last year.

Further copies are available from our website:  
[www.stberbadetteschill.catholic.edu.au/Parents/Whole School](http://www.stberbadetteschill.catholic.edu.au/Parents/Whole%20School).

## Student Banking

St Bernadette's participates in the Commonwealth Bank Student Banking programme. Kindergarten and new students to the school will be invited to join with a pack being sent home soon. Further details to follow!



School banking day: Tuesday

## Coming Dates

### WEEK 2

- Mon, 2 Feb**
- 8.30am Assembly
  - Kindergarten children to 2.30pm this week (siblings to 2.45pm)
  - Active Boost commences
- Tues, 3 Feb**
- Dance Fever
  - 1.10pm Choir Auditions Yrs 3 to 6
- Wed, 4 Feb**
- 1.10pm Choir Auditions Yrs 3 to 6
  - 3—4pm Club DanceFever
- Fri, 6 Feb**
- Band commences
  - 5.30pm onwards P&F Welcome BBQ
- Tue, 10 Feb**
- Yr 5 Vision Valley Camp
- Wed, 11 Feb**
- Yr 5 Vision Valley Camp
- Fri, 13 Feb**
- **Census Day**
  - 9.15am Opening School Mass—all parents are warmly invited to attend.

## Leadership Team Grade Responsibilities

From time to time you may wish to contact a leadership team member regarding your child.

Please use the information below to determine which leadership team member you need to contact:

Kindergarten:	Mrs Pam Hord
Year 1:	Ms Lyn Sweetnam
Year 2:	Mrs Shane Robinson
Year 3:	Mrs Kathy Watt
Year 4:	Mrs Rochelle Borg
Year 5:	Mrs Leanne Nettleton
Year 6:	Mr Peter Visser



## Staff List 2015

KB	Miss Zara Boudib
KG	Mrs Corena Laso
KW	Mrs Rochelle Borg
1B	Miss Belinda Heagney
1G	Mrs Karen Orsini/Mrs Maryanne Lean-Fore
1W	Mrs Nicole Edwards
2B	Miss Stephanie Hottes/Mrs Bianca Bojanowski
2G	Mrs Amy Shelton
2W	Mrs Julie Ingegneri
3B	Mrs Amy Macey/Mrs Karyn Lee
3G	Mrs Marilyn Ryan
3W	Mrs Dorothy Pickard
4B	Mrs Lisa Uno
4G	Mrs Shane Robinson
4W	Miss Cassandra Barry
5B	Miss Rhiarna Thomas
5G	Mrs Melinda Bullen
5W	Mrs Helen Games/Mrs Mary Doheny
6B	Miss Katie Games
6G	Mrs Nicole Metwally
6W	Mrs Kathy Watt
<b>Principal</b>	<b>Mrs Leanne Nettleton</b>
Asst. Principal	Mr Peter Visser
Teacher Release	Sport: Mr Tony Bye Library: Mrs Gaye Crammond Music/Drama: Mrs Buscall/Mrs Evans
Exec Release & REC Release	Mr Peter Visser
Reading Recovery	Ms Lyn Sweetnam
Teacher Aides	Mrs Leanne Aylen Mrs Joanne Calabria
Learning Support	Mrs Pam Hord
EMU Specialist Teachers	Mrs Pam Hord - Early Years & Middle Years Ms Lyn Sweetnam - Early Years
Library	Mrs Gaye Crammond Mrs Karen Davis
Choir	Mrs Lois Donnelly
Maintenance	Mr Len Bonavoglia
Admin Staff	Mrs Vicki Cassidy Mrs Dawn Crake Mrs Fran Murphy

### STUDENTS ABSENT ON CENSUS DAY

Census Day is Friday, **13th February**. If your child is absent on this day, a signed written explanation giving a reason for the absence **MUST** be sent to the school by close of business on **13th February** with an anticipated return to school date. This can be sent via written note or emailed to the school email address:

[BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au).

This is an audit requirement so your assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

### Supervision

We start at 8am with the morning supervision of the students.



School commences **PROMPTLY** at 8.30am.

In the afternoons, all the children are supervised on to buses, at Tuckshop, across roads, to after school care or while waiting for the Car Pick Up Service.

School finishes at **2.45pm** - your collection of children at this time is very much appreciated.

### Uniform

St. Bernadette's has a fine reputation in the wider community and the way in which our children wear the school uniform reflects on all students. Parents are urged to ensure that their children are wearing the uniform correctly. Please remember to label **ALL** clothing and school items.



### Birthday Cakes

If parents do need to send in a birthday cake for their child's birthday, teachers would prefer cup cakes.



This makes distribution in the classroom so much easier without the safety issues of bringing a knife into the class to cut the cake.

Thank you.

## Library—General Information

The library is an educational centre for both students and staff. It is a valuable resource where children can study as a class, group or individuals.

**The Library is open Monday to Thursday from 8.30 to 2.45pm. The library is supervised at lunchtime 1.20 to 1.40pm and the children may visit Monday to Wednesday. The Library is closed at recess.**

Borrowing limits for children vary according to the child's grade:

Kindergarten	1 book at a time
Year 1 and 2	2 books at a time
Year 3 and 4	3 books at a time
Years 5 and 6	4 books at a time



Students visit the library once a week for Library lessons and borrowing, but may borrow more often if they are avid readers. They must however return books before new ones can be loaned.

- ◆ Students are encouraged to choose a suitable book themselves as this develops their tastes and skills. However this does not always occur. Please contact me if you are concerned.
- ◆ Borrowing is encouraged over the school holidays (excluding Christmas) for recreational reading.
- ◆ A Library bag is required by the children when borrowing.
- ◆ All books should be returned after 2 weeks.

### Late Books

After the due date (i.e. 2 weeks after the book was borrowed) the book is overdue.

Books may be renewed if students need more time to finish reading the book.

Overdue notices are issued to students once per term.

Long term overdue notices are issued as a message to parents.

### Lost or Damaged Books

If you think a book has been lost or damaged, please contact the library.

We will:

- check the shelves to ensure that the item has not been returned. (It may not have been scanned or incorrectly scanned.)
- ask to check with your child's classroom teacher to make sure it is not in with the classroom books or reading books.
- request payment to replace the book.

### Book Club

**The Scholastic Book Club is run by the P&F once a term. The children have the opportunity to purchase books for information and recreational reading. Reward points from Book Club are used to purchase books for the classroom libraries.**

## Shade Structure

The top court shade structure will be replaced throughout this term with a hard roof structure the same as the one that covers the bottom court.

This will make two weather proof outside areas for the school.

# Other Items of Interest

Good Guy's Vouchers  
Our total is : \$  
Thank you for your support!

## UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be open on Tuesday, 2nd February between 8.00am and 10.00am.



## Club Dancefever is back!

Term 1 will see the recommencement of the 'Club Dancefever' afterschool programme on Wednesdays between **3 and 4pm**.



If you would like your child to participate in this programme, please send a note/email to: BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au and an enrolment form will be sent to you. Please include your child's name and class in the email.

Thank you.

## TUCKSHOP ROSTER FOR: Week ??? Term 1

Parent helpers please arrive at 10.25am for recess and 12.45pm for lunch

Monday	Recess	
	Lunch	Anne Marie Sullivan
Tuesday	Recess	
	Lunch	
Wednesday	Recess	
	Lunch	
Thursday	Recess	
	Lunch	
Friday	Recess	
	Lunch	Nicola Martin

Thank you for your help and support in the Tuckshop. It is very much appreciated.

## CHOIR

Students in Years 3 to 6 wishing to participate in the St Bernadette's School Choir are invited to audition next Tuesday or Wednesday at 1.10pm in the Multi Purpose Room.



Did you move house, get a new mobile, change job/work number etc over the holidays? If so, please let us have your new details: BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au



## Term Dates 2015

### Term 1

Thurs 29 Jan Years 1 to 6 commence  
Fri 30 Jan Kindergarten 2015 commence  
Thurs 2 April Last day for Term 1

### Term 2

Mon 20 April to Fri 26 June

### Term 3

Mon 13 July to Fri 18 September

### Term 4

Tue 6 October to Fri 18th December

PLEASE NOTE: NO STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED FOR TERMS 2, 3 AND 4.

## Child Protection

A reminder for parents who are required to 'UPDATE' their child protection and for 'NEW' parents to the school.



It is a Diocesan requirement that parents who volunteer at school must complete the Child Protection Module ONLINE. This training is available online at:

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training> and **MUST** be completed every two years. This is the new link as of September 2014.

All parents must have completed the above prior to helping in the classroom, on excursions, sport days, tuckshop, uniform shop or any help around the school.

# ST. BERNADETTE'S P&F ASSOC.

## **P&F Association Executive Committee 2015**

<b>President:</b>	Lara Thom
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Sarah Hope
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Amanda Egan
<b>Secretary:</b>	Karen Grace
<b>Executive Member:</b>	Alison Silvester
<b>Executive Member:</b>	Craig Stevens
<b>Executive Member:</b>	Damian Kelly
<b>Hospitality Committee:</b>	Katrina Leonardi & Fiona Carrozzi
<b>Uniform Shop:</b>	Therese Oasabian & Pam Waters
<b>Parent Representative Council:</b>	Karen Orsini, Naffa Arraf and Sarah Hope
<b>Grade Parent Coordinator:</b>	Rachel Gibb
<b>Book Club Coordinator:</b>	Lucy Losurdo and Cherie Ann Kelly
<b>Maintenance Coordinator:</b>	Naffa Arraf
<b>Donations &amp; Sponsorship Coordinator:</b>	Vacant. TBA
<b>Mothers/Fathers' Day Stall Coordinators:</b>	Melissa Younan & Bernadette Rushe
<b>Social Media Coordinator:</b>	Lara Thom
<b>2015 Fun Fair Coordinator:</b>	Sharyn Walsh

Congratulations and thank you to all! 2015 is shaping up to be a very positive, social and busy one for our school. If anyone is in a position to volunteer for the Sponsorship and Donations position, please feel free to contact Lara Thom.



**FUN FAIR DATE:**  
**FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER**  
**Please mark this date in your calendars!**



St Bernadette's  
Playgroup welcomes families with  
children 0-5 years to attend  
playgroup on Monday and  
Thursday mornings.



Come along for a cuppa and play. Fun Craft and  
music time every week.

Time: Monday 10-12 and Thursday 9.30-11.30

Where: Lourdes Centre 31b Brisbane Road

Contact: Carolyn Lincoln 0411547285 for further  
information

Playgroup resumes for 2015, Monday 2nd  
February. We look forward to meeting you!



**COME AND PLAY SOCCER WITH SBFC  
PLAYERS IN ALL AGE GROUPS WANTED  
FOR THE 2015 SEASON**

**(U6 Kindy's especially)**

**Please Contact**

**JohnC-0418 687974 or**

**TonyC-0412 225766**

Rego Day TBC in February and online



## UNIFORM ROSTER FOR 2015



Would all parents wishing to help in the Uniform Shop, please complete the form below and return it to the office by **Friday 12th December**. If you volunteer, you will be helping between 8am and 10am on a Tuesday morning. Two volunteers per morning are required. You must also have completed the Child Protection Course online in the last 2 years.

I, .....(Name, please print) Mobile Number .....

c/o Eldest child in Class: .....

☐ am available \*1st, \*2nd, \*3rd, \*4th or \*5th Tuesday in the month.

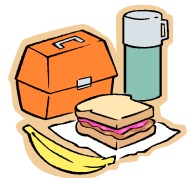
(\*please circle) in month/s: .....

☐ am available any Tuesday, please roster me as appropriate.

***For any queries, please contact Therese Qasabian -  
Uniform Roster Co-ordinator on 9659 8171***

**Please return this sheet to the school office if you would like to help in either the Tuckshop or Uniform Shop next year. Thank you**

## **Tuckshop Roster for 2015**



If you are interested in being a parent helper to serve in the Tuckshop either at recess or lunchtime, please fill in the form below and return to the office by **Friday 12th December**. You must also have completed the Child Protection Course online in the last 2 years.

### **TUCKSHOP ROSTER FOR 2015**

I, .....(Name, please print) Mobile Number.....

☐ am currently on ..... and will help on this day next year

*please nominate week and day of the month:(eg. third Monday)*

☐ am currently on ..... and would like to change to .....

☐ am currently on ..... but I am not available to help next year.

☐ am not on the roster but would like to help next year on .....

☐ am able to help between 10.15 and 11am 'recess' duty .....

☐ am able to help between 12.45 and 1.45pm 'lunch' duty .....

Eldest child's name: ..... Class: .....