



St Bernadette's School

Friday, 13th March, 2015

No.7

Dear Parents,

The theme for **Catholic Schools Week 2015** is '*Educating for Today and Tomorrow*'. This theme ties in with the 50th anniversary of the Declaration on Christian Education, 'Gravissimum Educationis.' The document recognised the continuing need for the Church to support parents in the education of their children.

'Educating for today and tomorrow' implies constant connection and growth. Tomorrow just does not happen. We grow into tomorrow. Tomorrow is shaped by our past and by our learning today - what we have learnt and who we have grown into. At St Bernadette's we believe we are linked to God's great story up and down the ages. We are linked to God and to each other.

Catholic Schools Week is about strengthening relationships between all those who have a stake in our school - students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community - by showcasing what happens in our classrooms every day.

This week, we held an Open Day for our Kindergarten 2016 families. Our Year 6 School Leaders offered hospitality through welcoming the families and acting as tour guides. They also led prayer and responded to questions asked by families. I have received significant feedback about how articulate and respectful our leaders were and how welcoming our St Bernadette's school community is. This has been a long tradition for our school. A tradition, of which we are all extremely proud.

May the God of community walk with us and beside us, sharing our journeys, listening to our stories, embracing our pain, rejoicing in our triumphs.

May God continue to bless our efforts to grow into a strong and vibrant community one marked by concern, openness and trust.

And may God, the source of all being,

Jesus the eternal Word

*And the Spirit who is the life-force
bless us now and forever. Amen*

Leanne Nettleton—Principal

R.E. NEWS



The children in our Parish are currently involved in preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing.

Parents for their professional reading have received a booklet, with excerpts from Pope Francis' general Audience on Penance, which gives background information on this sacrament.

The children preparing for this sacrament are learning the special prayer of the Act of Contrition:

O My God

*I am very sorry that I have sinned
against you because you are so good
and with Your help I will not sin again.*

The First Reconciliation ceremonies will take place on Tuesday 24th March and Wednesday 25th March.

Shane Robinson
Acting Religious Education
Coordinator

From the Principal:

2016 KINDERGARTEN SIBLING ENROLMENTS

If you are intending to enrol any sibling/s of students already at St Bernadette's for Kindergarten 2016, please submit an enrolment form which is available from the school office or via our website by Friday 1st May 2015. This information will assist us in preparing for next year's intake of students. Thank you.

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta will once again be participating in the Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) survey. The QCS survey provides information from students, staff and parents about our school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community, and assists us in our focus on continuous improvement. Between 13th and 20th March all staff, students from Years 5 and 6, and 60 randomly-selected parents will be asked to complete an online survey.



Staff and students will complete the survey online at school. Parents will be sent home a paper survey but will also be able to complete the survey online if preferred.

This year we will be able to get even more information about the link between student wellbeing and learning outcomes. To do this we will need to include a student identifier in the student survey. The survey will remain confidential and individual survey responses will not be accessible by the school or the Catholic Education Office. An independent survey consultant (Insight SRC) who manages the data collection will ensure the survey data is kept strictly confidential. Each school will receive a de-identified information report at the end of May to help them to develop strategies for further improvement. While this is a change from previous years, it will definitely help us in working with all students to improve their learning. If you have concerns, please feel free to contact Mr Visser.

As a parent, if you are randomly selected to complete the survey (which has been sent home today), we would encourage your participation as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

Teacher Professional Learning and Leave Entitlements

Like professionals in other fields, all teachers are required to keep up to date with current thinking on best practices and new developments in education. From time to time teachers are required to attend professional development opportunities to learn about changes to curriculum, new methods of teaching & learning and other ways of integrating technology. These sessions sometimes occur during the day, after school or in the school holidays. Teachers also have entitlements such as long service leave, maternity leave, sick leave, bereavement leave and jury duty. Consequently there will be times when your child's teacher is absent from the classroom. On these days the teacher's program and day book is followed. Teachers on a grade work closely together allowing the grade partner to liaise with the relief teacher so that good teaching and learning continues and routines are kept. We thank you for your support in this matter.



Early Years Reading Assessments

Teachers of Kindergarten and Year One are currently administering reading assessments to every child in their class. These are a one-on-one assessment interview and provide teachers with diagnostic information about your child's readiness for reading (Kindergarten) and ongoing reading development (Year One).



School Car Park Entry

Please **ONLY** use Brisbane Road as entry to the school car park, Kiss 'n Drop and Car Pick Up Service. The Old Northern Road driveway is clearly sign posted to remind all our parents that the **SCHOOL ACCESS IS VIA BRISBANE ROAD.**

Please look after the safety of all our children and parishioners.



NSW STATE ELECTION:

Did you know? Catholic schools support increased Government funding for ALL schools—government and non government—because each school is an integral part of NSW's economic and social infrastructure. Every student is entitled to receive the best education possible, regardless of the school they attend. This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs—to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.

FAQ 's ABOUT MATHS HOMEWORK

Multiplication is taught from the first year of primary school.

Does my child still need to learn their tables?

Yes. Table memorisation allows children to have the automaticity when they are performing quick calculations. In the same way that sight word knowledge is important for fluent reading, table knowledge assists children with fluency in computations.

Challenge: Learning times tables is not the same as understanding multiplication and division. Rather it is about memorising. Effective mathematicians can apply their understanding of multiplication and division to real life situations because they understand the strategies and representations of multiplication (and division) as they occur in a wide range of contexts. In 2014 NAPLAN this looked like using multiplicative reasoning and understanding to apply multiplication strategies and facts.

The questions below appeared in the 2014 Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN Papers:-

Sue needs to buy 16 hats for a party.

The hats are sold in packets of 5

How many packets does she need to buy?

AND

Matt and his friends are putting up some tents.

Each tent needs 8 pegs. Each peg can only be used for one tent.

They have 100 pegs.

What is the maximum number of tents they can put up?

AND

Sam has \$1,20 in 5 – cent coins.

How many 5-cent coins does Sam have?

AND

A shop sells cupcakes in trays and boxes.

Each tray holds 6 cupcakes.

Each box holds 8 cupcakes.

Molly buys a total of 50 cupcakes.

She buys 4 boxes and some trays.

How many trays does Molly buy?



Coming Dates

WEEK 8

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon, 16 March | • 8.30am Morning Assembly |
| Tues, 17 March | • 8-10am Uniform Shop
• Student Banking |
| Wed, 18 March | • 1.10pm Choir
• 3-4pm DanceFever After School Club |
| Thurs, 19 March | • Cross Country Carnival & Fun Day at Fagan Park—whole school |
| Fri, 20 March | • NSWCPs Swim Trials Homebush
• P&F MOVIE NIGHT—EPIC (See Flyer on page 7) |
| Sat, 21 March | • 9-1PM PARISH & SCHOOL WORKING BEE |

Book Club

Booklets for Book Club were sent home with the children on Monday 9th March.

Orders should be returned by **Monday 16th March**. Payment may be made in a number of ways:

- * send cheque (payable to Scholastic Australia) or cash with completed order form to school in an envelope with child's name and class
- * if ordering with a credit card by phone or online, please don't forget to send the 11 digit receipt number along with the completed order form to school in an envelope marked with child's name and class
- * credit card using loop (scholastic.com.au/loop) this enables parents to order and pay for their child's Book Club, no need to return anything to school. The purchased books will still be distributed through the school and we will still receive the reward points.

Social Skill for Weeks 8 & 9: Being responsible for our words and actions.

Over the past month we have been developing friendship skills, helping those in need and accepting each other at St Bernadette's. The words we speak and our actions towards each other relates to the way we communicate. Within our classrooms we have been reminding the children of the following skills:

- **Think before you speak.**
- **Speak clearly and don't shout.**
- **Have a sense of humour.**
- **Consider your gestures and eye contact with others.**
- **Listen with understanding (put yourself in the place of the other person).**

If our thought at the beginning of each day was to express kind words and kind actions to all we meet, we would have a positive outcome for the well being of each individual in our community.

Mrs Kathy Watt

Congratulations to the following

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Social Skill: Showing Acceptance at St Bernadette's

Class	Student of the Week	Student of the Week	Social Skill Award
KB	Jason Khoudair	Sara Uricoechea	Annabelle Farag
KG	Alexander Nader	Taylor Zeaiter	Annabella Dean
KW	Audrey Sullivan	Christopher Zaiter	Rachel Sahabu
1B	Isabella De Souza	Antonio Zeaiter	Leah Symin
1G	Henry Buscall	Isla Guy	Thomas McGinty
1W	Ava Barakat	Lana Formosa	Charlie Akle
2B	Landen Besters	Saskia Bullen	William Mayer
2G	Zander Cheng	Olivia Drogaris	Charlotte Lee
2W	Daniel Egan	Imogen Vines	Sienna Symin
3B	Timothy Kelly	Ryan Suyko	Alexandra Parington
3G	Aimee Coulter	Noah Vassallo	Aprille Exton
3W	Jarratt Allan	Louis Malandrino	Isabella Willard
4B	Annalise Besters	Toby Ryan	Emma Mizzi
4G	Franz Gozeco	Michelle Zeaiter	Summer O'Bryan
4W	Not for Publication	Sienna Vines	Luciana Romanski
5B	Aidan Leuzzi	Liana Zerafa	Rebecca Durney-Steel
5G	Aaron Keetels	Mariah Lopez	Dominique Muscat
5W	Adam Bugarija	Brooke Hughes	Fintan Hogan
6B	Mason Carnevale	Aaliya Gnanasekaram	Douglas Sullivan
6G	Travis Exton	Jessica Runac	Christian Barakat
6W	Chelsea Freitas	Alyssa Hassarati	Marcus Tole

Celebrating Talents

Congratulations to Sarah and Grace Michel in Yr 6 who have progressed through to represent the diocese and school at the MacKillop school trials on 20th March.

Grace was senior girls diocesan champion and Sarah was joint runner up!

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS:

Sebastian Uricoechea 3W
Niamh Bradley 3W
Christopher Dodd 3W
Tom Geaitani 3W
Ethan Zerafa 3B
Deema Arraf 3B



ENROLLING NOW

KINDERGARTEN 2016



ANZAC Day 2015

You will recall that last year, every student at the school decorated and wrote on a wooden cross as part of the Australian War Memorial's Commemorative Crosses Project. These crosses have now left Australia bound for a number of countries around the world to be placed on Australian military personnel's graves.

As part of commemorating ANZAC Day in its Centenary Year, the student leaders have already attended the launch of the Educational Kit at Castle Hill RSL last week. The kit has some wonderful activities for the students across the school.

Already this term, students have been involved in the ANZAC Writing competitions with some wonderful entries. In the coming weeks, students will be participating in recording the names of service men and women for projection in the Remembering Voices soundscape at the Australian War Memorial.

Our leaders will also attend and lay a wreath at the Centenary of ANZAC Sunday Commemoration Service on April 19th held at the Centenary of ANZAC Reserve, Castle Hill. A large digital screen will be used so that all attendees can see the Service. The Centenary of Sunday ANZAC address will be delivered by Major General Paul Symon AO.

In the week leading up to ANZAC Day the school will commemorate it with a variety of activities culminating in a liturgy and further activities on Friday 24th April and our leaders attending and laying a wreath at the Dawn Service on April 25th.

We would like to invite families to send in the names of members of the family with a connection to the ANZAC tradition. Your children will be invited to prepare a short oral presentation about that person that can be recorded before the end of Term 1 and placed on the school's Facebook page in Week 1 of Term 2.

Peter Visser—Assistant Principal

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, 17th March between 8.00am and 10.00am.



Winter Uniform

Winter uniform is available to purchase from Tuesday 24th March (Week 9). The 2015 Winter Uniform Order Form is attached to this e-newsletter. Orders can be made using this form directly at the Uniform Shop or sent to the office with payment in either cash/cheque in an envelope clearly marked Uniform Shop.

In Term 2, Weeks 1 and 2 students are permitted to wear either full summer uniform or full winter uniform (not a mixture).

In Term 2, Week 3 we ask that all students be in full winter uniform. Thank you.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER FOR: Week 8 Term 1

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

Monday	Recess	Paula Yacoub
	Lunch	Paula Yacoub
Tuesday	Recess	
	Lunch	
Wednesday	Recess	Lynley Walker
	Lunch	Gina Zeaiter
Thursday	Recess	
	Lunch	
Friday	Recess	Stacy Daly
	Lunch	

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

Student Leave

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.

Parents are requested to complete an **Application for Extended Leave** form for absences of 10 days or more. This form is on our website: Parents/Notes from School/Administration Forms/Application for Extended Leave.

Please submit this form together with a copy of your travel documentation at least three weeks prior to the proposed leave date. This Application for Extended Leave will then be responded to by Mrs Nettleton. Thank you for your assistance.

Book Covering

Thank you to the parents who have already helped!

If any parents could spare an hour or two to cover some books for the Learning Centre (all equipment supplied) could you please contact the school office.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Term Dates 2015

Term 1

Thurs 2 April Last day for Term 1

Term 2

Mon 20 April to Thurs 25 June
Fri 26 June—Staff Dev & Pupil Free Day

Term 3

Mon 13 July to Fri 18 September

Term 4

Tue 6 October to Wednesday 16th December
Thurs 17th & Fri 18th December—Staff Development & Pupil Free Days

Dates for the calendar:

Mothers' Day Celebration:

Friday 8th May

Term 2 Staff Development & Pupil Free Day:

Friday, 26th June

Grandparents' Day:

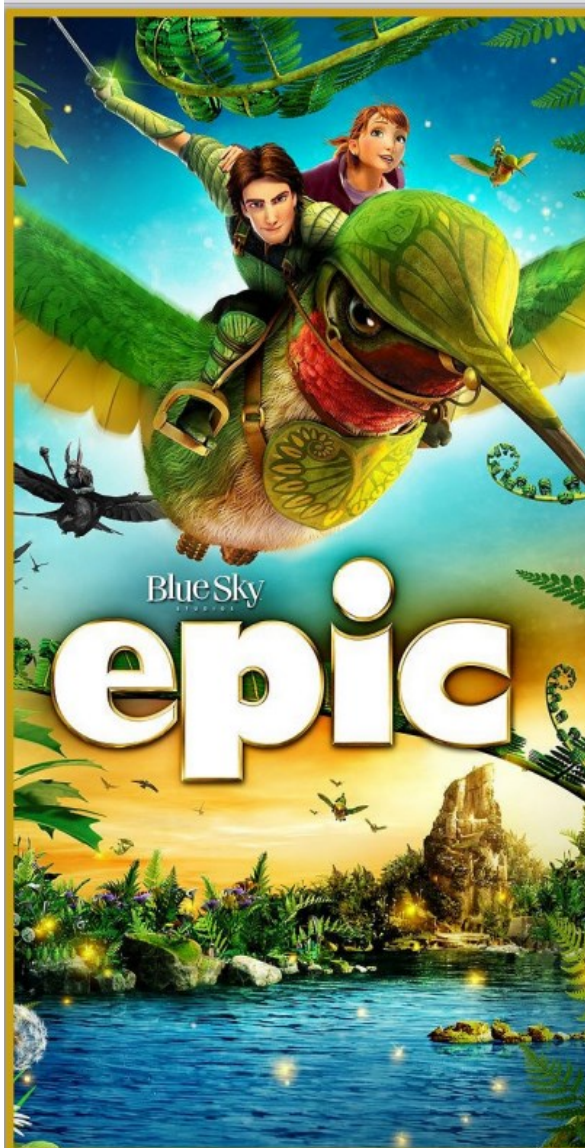
Friday 24th July

Further details to follow!

Good Guys' Vouchers

Just a reminder that if you make a purchase at the Good Guys, to ask for your '**School Reward Vouchers**'. We put the vouchers towards prizes for school events and our Fun Fair.

ST. BERNADETTE'S P&F ASSOC.



ST BERNADETTE'S P&F MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, 20 March 2015

BYO Picnic Rug & Chairs

Tickets \$15 per family

Arrive from 6:00pm

Movie starts approx. 7:30pm

Refreshments for sale

All families are invited to attend.
It's a great night out and a wonderful
opportunity to meet new families!

Notes will be sent home on Monday

There is much excitement around the school as the count down to our

Open Air Movie Night commences.

If you have not purchased your tickets already you can do so up until 18th March.

Come along, bring a picnic dinner and enjoy a night under the stars with friends!

This is an alcohol free event.

PARISH & SCHOOL WORKING BEE SAT, 21ST MARCH 9—1PM

If you can spare an hour or two we would appreciate your help on this day.
Morning tea and a sausage sizzle is provided.



From the Executive Director of Schools, Mr Greg Whitby:

CAPTIVATE Masterclass - Dance Intensive enrolling now

The CAPTIVATE Masterclass - Dance Intensive will take place from Friday 20th March to Sunday 22nd March at St John Paul II Catholic College, Nirimba Campus.

Dance Intensive is a three day program run in Term 1 - Week 8 for Years 5 to 12 dance students of all abilities. Led by a number of professional dancers and choreographers, the workshop exposes students to a wide variety of dance styles including Classical Ballet, Cheerleading, Contemporary, Jazz, JFH, Lyrical, HipHop, Tap, Urban Jazz Fusion and more. Not to be missed, it is a great way to extend students technical skills and appreciation of dance, meet professional dancers and choreographers.

Program:

Primary Students: \$80 for the 2 day program (Sat, Sun) Secondary Students: \$120 for the full 3 day program (Fri, Sat, Sun)

Starting times each day are:

Friday: Secondary Only 8:00am - 5:00pm Saturday: Secondary 8:15am - 5:00pm/ Primary 8:30am - 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:45am - 5:50pm (primary and secondary) Sunday Performance: 6:30am - 8:00pm

If you would like to be part of this program schools can invite students to participate and students can enrol online captivate.parra.catholic.edu.au.

Contact: CAPTIVATE Team—Tel: 9840 5649 Email: captivate@parra.catholic.edu.au

CATHOLICCARE SOCIAL SERVICES Solo Parent Services

Young Widowed Bereavement Support Group

Has your spouse or partner died and are you searching for someone who understands the enormity of your loss and the impact this is having on your life and your children?

Do you long to connect with others who have experienced a similar loss? Are you unsure of how to assist your children through their grief?

Would you like support as you deal with your changed circumstances?

Venue: CCSS Centre 51—59 Allawah Street
Blacktown
Date: 3rd Tuesday of each month (Feb—Dec)
Time: 7—9pm
Cost: \$5.00

Are you interested in a little extra one-to-one band tuition during the Easter Holidays?

Would you like a lesson from a specialist music teacher on your instrument?

Do you have an old guitar or keyboard laying around you'd like to dust off for a good cause?

TSA and DMC staff are combining to donate a day of their time, raising money for charity these Easter holidays and invite students, staff, parents, family and friends to sign up for a good cause.



Help DMC & Teaching Services
Australia support Mr Lavis and

Car 56 on the 2015 Newcastle Variety Bash
with our **School Holiday Music Tuition Day**

raising money for

Variety, The Children's Charity

Date: April 14

Time: Book a 30min time slot between 9am-4pm

Venue: Dural Music Centre (Unit 31/286 New Line Rd, Dural)

Cost: \$35 (make a tax-deductible donation of \$35 or more for your 'free lesson')

Bookings: 9651 7333 or at Dural Music Centre (bookings essential!)

All proceeds from the day will be passed on in full to Variety, The Children's Charity.



Year 3 Morning Tea

*We would love to catch up for a coffee
before the end of the term!*

Monday 23rd March
10am
Castle Hill RSL

Year 3 Class Parents

OAKHILL COLLEGE 2015 ART EXHIBITION

SATURDAY 21ST & SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2015

OPENING NIGHT Friday 20th March
7pm for 7.30pm till 10.30pm

ADMISSION \$30 pre-paid via website or \$35 at the door.
www.artoakhill.com.au/openingnighttickets

EXHIBITION CONTINUES Saturday: 21st March - 10am-5pm
Sunday: 22nd March - 10am-4pm
Admission - Gold or Fold

ENQUIRIES: Terri Unwin: tunwin@smartline.com.au
0419 734 704

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