



St Bernadette's School



Friday 16 December 2016

No. 40



The staff of St Bernadette's wish each and every family a happy and Holy Christmas.

May the new year bring you great happiness and health.

Thank you again for your generous support of our school.

Dear Parents,

Being our 60th Anniversary year, 2016 has been a year of celebration for St Bernadette's. Our children have learnt, played and prayed together in the true spirit of our school motto – 'Strength through Gentleness'.

2016 has been a year in which learning goals have been a focus for the students and teachers. Aiming high and setting their minds and energies towards achieving these has been both challenging and rewarding for the students and teachers.

The launching of our KidsMatter wellbeing programme has also been a highlight for the community and we will always remember our whole school singing and dancing to our theme song 'You can Count on Me'. Our Years 3 to 6 Dance Fever Challenge participants, School Choir and School Band have as usual, been opportunities for the school to showcase the wonderful creative arts talents of our students within the wider community.

We have so much to be thankful for and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderfully dedicated staff – teachers and ancillary for their generosity, support and enthusiasm throughout the year. We are known for the hospitality and welcome that is demonstrated from the front office right into our beautifully maintained grounds through to the classrooms.

To Monsignor John, Father Michael and the parish team we are very appreciative. We are blessed to be in the grounds of our parish community and for the children to be nurtured in their faith and development as part of the St Bernadette's Parish.

To our parents, grandparents, families and friends in the wider community we are ever thankful for your support and encouragement no matter how big or small – sometimes just a gentle wave or kind smile to one of the children or staff as you move around the school, your collaboration and support for the benefit of all our beautiful children is appreciated.

I would like to thank our Parents & Friends Association for the wonderful support that they offer me as principal and to the teachers so that we can offer the best educational and pastoral care programs to the children at our school. It may be parents helping out in the classroom, on excursions, at gala days or parents extending a kind and supportive word. We are thankful for every contribution that you make.

As we finish the school year I would like to thank and farewell Mrs Pickard who is, as announced at our Thanksgiving Mass, retiring after a long career in teaching. Mrs Pickard has educated a significant number of St Bernadette's students past and present and will be fondly remembered for her wonderful love of literature and the creative arts. I would also like to thank and farewell Mrs Mary Doheny who will be increasing her teaching commitments at Pius College at Chatswood in her role as a Learning Support teacher. Like Mrs Pickard, Mrs Doheny has had a long teaching career at St Bernadette's and has a strong family connection with St Bernadette's. She has been extremely generous with her time and talents.

Week 1 2017

Fri 27 January

Staff Development & Pupil Free Day
1pm onwards MAIs

Week 2 2017

Mon 30 January

Staff Development & Pupil Free Day
MAIs

Tue 31 January

8.30am Years 1 to 6 commence

9.00am **NEW** students
Years 1 to 6 commence

Wed 1 February

8.30am Kindergarten
2017 commence

Thurs 2 February

Fri 3 February

5.30pm P&F Welcome
BBQ for Kindy 17 & NEW families to the school

Don't forget the St Bernadette's Summer Reading Challenge! You can enter as many times as you like!

Mrs Karen Davis who has worked in our school library for the past 11 years has decided to finish up at the end of the year. Over these years Mrs Davis has maintained a fabulous library collection for our school - we thank her for this. I also extend our best wishes and thanks to Miss Shelton who has secured a permanent teaching position at St Paul's, Winston Hills from 2017.

Best wishes to Mrs Katie Mulligan as she takes maternity leave to prepare for the birth of her first baby expected in January.

We wish Mrs Pickard, Mrs Doheny Mrs Davis and Miss Shelton a future filled with great hopes and great things, for great are the plans of God. May God's blessings guide them throughout the coming years

Welcome to new staff at St Bernadette's in 2017

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Miss Courtney Crivici and Miss Kristina Jurcevic who will join the St Bernadette's Staff in 2017.

Each will bring to our school a passion for primary school education. Miss Crivici will be teaching Year 1 Gold and Miss Jurcevic will be teaching Year 2 Gold. Mrs Uno, Mrs Bojanowski and Mrs Macey will return from maternity throughout 2017.



Grade Teachers for 2017

KB Miss Stephanie Doherty
 KG Mrs Corena Laso
 KW Mrs Leanne Napoli
 1B Miss Belinda Heagney
 1G Miss Courtney Crivici
 1W Miss Nicole Edwards
 2B Mrs Michelle Hourigan/Mrs Bianca Bojanowski
 2G Miss Kristina Jurcevic
 2W Mrs Julie Ingegneri
 3B Mrs Karyn Lee/Mrs Uno until Mrs Macey returns
 3G Mrs Marilyn Ryan
 3W Mrs Maryanne Lean-Fore
 4B Mrs Melinda Bullen
 4G Mrs Rhiarna Thomas
 4W Mrs Shane Robinson/Mrs Alexandra Buscall
 5B Mrs Ilana Blazevic
 5G Mrs Nicole Metwally
 5W Mrs Rochelle Borg
 6B Mrs Karen Orsini
 6G Mrs Amanda Thorpe/Mr Peter Visser
 6W Mrs Kathy Watt

2017 Student Leaders

Congratulations to our recently elected 2017 School Leaders:-

School Captains

Luciana Romanski & Sebastian Akle

School Vice Captains

Taylor Egan & Emma Mizzi

School Leadership Team:

Kaden Govender	Alec West	Logan Ragno
Zachary Barone	Franz Goseco	Grace Towner
Hayley Bounassif	Summer O'Bryan	Michelle Zeaiter
Alexandra Cushway		

Year 6 Farewell to the School

Monday was the final school assembly for our 2016 Year 6 students. The school leaders addressed their fellow students and made a presentation to the school of a Buddy Bench with the slogan *I belong, You Belong, We belong* displayed on it. This will be well used by the children and a great reminder to us of our 2016 Year 6 students. Thank you Year 6!



RE News

Christmas is not only a celebration of Christ's birth. It is a time for remembering also the revelation of Christ to the shepherds and to the magi, his baptism by John in the Jordan and his changing water into wine at the wedding in Cana of Galilee. In all these saving events, we learn that 'the Word is made flesh and dwells among us'.

At Christmas we also have the image of light, which is reinforced by the sequence of the readings at the Christmas Masses.

The Church's Christmas Time begins on 25th December and comes to a conclusion on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, so until then leave the Christmas tree and decorations up, keep singing Christmas carols and continue spreading Christmas goodwill.

*From the very beginning was
 Your Word
 Which spoke this world into being
 Your Word
 Which thunders from the skies
 Your Word
 Which flows like mountain streams
 Your Word
 Which whispers in morning breeze
 Your Word
 Revealed through kings and prophets
 Your Word
 Revealed through Angels' praise
 Your Word
 Revealed in humble service
 Your Word
 Revealed through a tiny child
 Your Word
 Alive from the beginning of all things
 And to eternity.*

Mrs Shane Robinson—REC



St Bernadette's Swimming Carnival 2nd December 2016

A special thank you to our students, parents and teachers of St Bernadette's; who helped make our Swimming Carnival day a success.



In our carnival children swam in the following events: 100m Freestyle, 50m Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly and a variety of 25m events for the inexperienced swimmers.

Congratulations and best of luck to the following children who will represent St Bernadette's at the Hills Zone Swimming Trials in 2017; Charlie Akle, Sebastian Akle, Jarratt Allan, Eva Bailey, Flynn Batty, Olivia Boxshall, Aimee Coulter, Olivia Drogaris, Taylor Egan, Chloe Gething, Nicholas Gomez, Amy Hammersley, Olivia Kirkham, Ella Lincoln, Tayla Milicevic, Zachary Miller, Blake Noonan, Angus Northey, Zac Northey, Jardyn Orsini, Owen Suyko, Oscar Palmason, Mekenna Vickers, Tayah Vickers and Patrick Windress.

2016 AGE CHAMPIONS AND RUNNERS UP

AGE	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP
7/8YRS BOYS	Charlie Akle	Patrick Windress
7/8YRS GIRLS	Eva Bailey	Olivia Kirkham
9YRS BOYS	Jarrat Allan	Angus Northey
9YRS GIRLS	Tayah Vickers	Olivia Drogaris
10YRS BOYS	Blake Noonan	Jardyn Orsini
10YRS GIRLS	Chloe Gething	Aimee Coulter
11YRS BOYS	Sebastian Akle	Liam Rushe
11YRS GIRLS	Tayla Milicevic	Flynn Batty
12YRS BOYS	Jake Collyer	Connor McGovern
12YRS GIRLS	Caitlin Gething	Macy McCutcheon

HOUSE POINTS AND PLACES

PLACE	HOUSE	POINTS
1 st	Green	808
2 nd	Blue	802
3 nd	Gold	710
4 th	Red	690

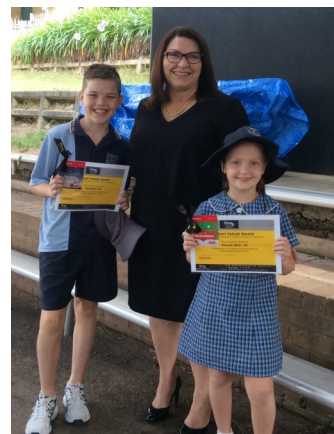
Mrs Rhiarna Thomas, Mrs Amanda Thorpe,
Mr Anthony Bye

School Values Awards Term 4

It gives me great pleasure to announce the recipients of last term's School Values Awards sponsored by Century 21, Castle Hill.

These awards are presented to two children who are nominated for living our core values of respect, honesty, care and compassion, forgiveness and tolerance.

Congratulations to:
**Hannah Wall 1G and
Alec West 5G**



Thanks to Century 21 for their continued support of our School Values Awards and St Bernadette's School.



Student Banking News 2017

Banking will commence in Week 3 -
Wednesday 8 February 2017.



We are looking for helpers!!

If anyone can assist with banking on Wednesday's please contact Antonina on
0418 285 597 or antonina@scotti.com.au

Term 1 2017:

Fri 27 Jan (Staff Dev Day)
Mon 30 Jan (Staff Dev Day) to
Fri 7 April

Term 2 2017:

Mon 24 April to Fri 30 June

Term 3 2017:

Mon 17 July to Fri 22 September

Term 4 2017:

Monday 9 October to Fri 15 December (students),
Tuesday 19 December (Staff)

(please note other Staff Development Days will be advised during the year)