



# St Bernadette's School

Friday 5th February 2016

No. 01

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school for 2016 the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year of St Bernadette's Primary School. Our school has a proud history and rich tradition of providing Catholic education to the families of our parish and we are all proud to be part of this community in it's 60<sup>th</sup> Year.

Anniversaries allow wonderful opportunities for communities to remember, relive, reflect upon and celebrate all that makes it special and unique. We would love to hear from the many families that have been educated at our school during this time. There might be a special memory or story that you might like to share that we could tell our current students and their families. There will be lots happening throughout this year to mark this very special milestone on our story. For your diaries we will open our 60th Anniversary Year with a mass of celebration on Tuesday 23rd February 2016 at 8.45am.

Welcome to our new students and families. This evening we will have the opportunity to welcome you at our P & F Welcome BBQ. We know that you will find St Bernadette's a friendly community.

Welcome to our new staff members Miss Doherty (KB) and Mrs Blazevic (4W) and welcome back to Mrs Napoli (KW), Mrs Hourigan (2G), and Mrs Thorpe (5W).

Mrs Leanne Nettleton  
Principal

## R.E. NEWS



### Next Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday

'Shrove' means being forgiven for wrong-doings. Another name for Shrove Tuesday is Pancake Day. A long time ago this was a day for feasting and having a good time. People went to church to confess the bad things they had done and would be forgiven before the start of Lent. As rich foods such as eggs were forbidden during Lent, one way of using them up would be to make pancakes.

(<http://www.topmarks.co.uk>)

Wednesday, 10th February is Ash Wednesday and this marks the beginning of Lent. The season of Lent goes for forty days and is a time for Catholics to prepare for Easter. Lent is usually a time of fasting and repentance as well as a time for reflecting on Christ's suffering and sacrifice for us. On Ash Wednesday, Years 3 to 6 will attend the 9:15am Parish Mass and the 12 noon Parish Mass. They will receive the ashes on their forehead and hear these words 'Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel'. The Infants grades will have their own special liturgy in the hall.

### Thank you and Farewell to Father Eugene

By now many of you will know that Father Eugene will be taking up the position of Assistant Priest at St Aidan's, Rooty Hill. Father Eugene is much loved by our children and will be greatly missed by staff and students who are so thankful for his care and teaching during his time at St Bernadette's. We wish him well and will always keep him in our prayers.

### Week 3 Dates

**Mon 8 February**  
8.30am  
Morning Assembly  
2.45pm Motivat8sports

**Tues 9 February**  
*Shrove Tuesday*  
Year 5 Vision Valley  
8-10am Uniform Shop  
School Banking  
1.10pm Choir Auditions  
3pm Club Dance Fever

**Wed 10 February**  
*Ash Wednesday*  
9.15 & 12 noon Masses  
Year 5 Vision Valley  
Year 3 Incursion

**Fri 12 February**  
**CENSUS DAY**  
1.40pm Whole School  
Assembly—Church—  
Parents welcome

### Coming Dates:

**Tues 23 Feb**  
8.45am Welcome Mass  
— Church

**Mon 22 Feb**  
Hills Zone Swimming

**Fri 26 Feb**  
Diocesan Swimming—  
Blacktown

**P & F WELCOME BBQ TONIGHT!!!**  
**5.30PM ONWARDS**  
**FOR KINDERGARTEN & NEW FAMILIES IN 2016**  
**JUST BRING A PICNIC BLANKET OR CHAIRS—HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US.**

## **Parent Interviews**

This year the teachers will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews in Weeks 8 and 9. These interviews will replace the beginning of year Meet the Teacher Interviews and will focus on your child's learning progress. They will be an opportunity for you to hear from the teachers about your child's MAI, Reading and Writing Assessments as well as their general progress so far in their new grade. Grade overviews are being emailed to you for this term and parents are invited to contact class teachers to discuss any information that they would like the teacher to know prior to these interviews. Children's workbooks will be sent home in Week 6 (Maths) and Week 8 (Literacy).

## **Grade Mentors**

At St Bernadette's each of the leadership team members act as a communication point for parents when necessary. Of course the first point of communication about your child is always with the class teacher. Please find below the Grade Mentors for 2016. They can be contacted through the school office.

Kindergarten	- Mrs Pam Hord
Year One	- Ms Lyn Sweetnam
Year Two	- Mrs Rochelle Borg
YEAR Three	- Mrs Leanne Nettleton
Year Four	- Mrs Kathy Watt
Year Five	- Mr Peter Visser
Year Six	- Mrs Shane Robinson

## **Next Friday 12th February is School**

### **Census Day**

If you know that your child will be absent on Friday 12th February, please email the school explaining their absence prior to the day. Likewise, if your child is unexpectedly absent on the day, please email the school by 10:00am on Friday 12th February simply advising your child's name, class, the reason for their absence and when they will return.

Please note: Auditors have advised that written advice from parents is mandatory. This is a requirement that applies to every day of the school year, however, Census data is directly related to Government funding for our schools and the requirements outlined above are set by the Department of Education. Thank you for your co-operation.

## **ATTENTION—SINGERS!**

If you are in Years 3 to 6 and are interested in joining our school choir for 2016, auditions will be held in Week 3 (Tuesday 9th February) at lunchtime 1.10—1.40pm in the Music Room.

Please contact Mrs Evans if you have any questions or come along to the auditions next week.

**Elizabeth Evans**  
**Choir**



## **Staff 2016**

KB	Miss Stephanie Doherty
KG	Mrs Corena Laso
KW	Mrs Leanne Napoli
1B	Miss Belinda Heagney
1G	Mrs Maryanne Lean-Fore/Mrs Stephanie Hottes
1W	Miss Nicole Edwards
2B	Mrs Bianca Bojanowski/Mrs Michelle Hourigan
2G	Miss Amy Shelton
2W	Mrs Julie Ingegneri
3B	Mrs Amy Macey/Mrs Karyn Lee
3G	Mrs Marilyn Ryan
3W	Mrs Karen Orsini
4B	Mrs Melinda Bullen
4G	Mrs Shane Robinson
4W	Mrs Ilana Blazevic
5B	Miss Rhiarna Thomas
5G	Mrs Rochelle Borg
5W	Mrs Mary Doheny/Mrs Amanda Thorpe
6B	Miss Katie Games
6G	Mrs Nicole Metwally
6W	Mrs Kathy Watt

Principal:	Mrs Leanne Nettleton
Asst Principal:	Mr Peter Visser
Teacher Release:	Mrs Elizabeth Evans & Mrs Alexandra Buscall
Sport:	Mr Tony Bye
Library:	Mrs Gaye Crammond & Mrs Karen Davis
Learning Support:	Mr Pam Hord
Reading Recovery:	Miss Lyn Sweetnam
Choir:	Mrs Elizabeth Evans
Admin:	Mrs Vicki Cassidy Mrs Dawn Crake Mrs Fran Murphy
Maintenance:	Mr Colin Balfour

## 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

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

Kindergarten -	1 book at a time
Years 1 & 2 -	2 books at a time
Year 3 & 4 -	3 books at a time
Year 5 & 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.

### Premiers Reading Challenge

All students are encouraged to participate in the **Premiers Reading Challenge**.

The 2016 Challenge begins in March and finishes on September 1st, 2016. Many of the books listed can be borrowed from the St Bernadette's School Library.

## Library Continued

### 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 the Book Club are used to purchase books for the classroom libraries.

### UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be open EVERY Tuesday morning (term time) between 8 and 10am for the purchase of school uniform. EFTPOS, Cash & Cheques are accepted.



### 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.

### Sport Uniform Days — Term 1

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



### 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.

## 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.

## Child Protection

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

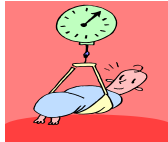


It is a Diocesan requirement that parents who volunteer at school must complete the Child Protection Module ONLINE. This training is available online at:

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

Our congratulations to the Hanna Family on the birth of **TWIN BOYS!!!** Charbel & Joseph born yesterday, brothers to Matthew 1B, Rachael 4G and Tiana 6G. Our best wishes to the family.



Our congratulations to the Mormul Family on the birth of a baby girl, Xelma, sister to Hilda in 1G and Zelda in 3B. Our best wishes to the family.

**R.I.P.** †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to the **Ferris family** (Julian in 1G and Renee in 3W), following the recent passing of their grandfather. May he rest in peace.



## Social Skill: Week's 2 & 3—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

## 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.*



## 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.

## Term Dates 2016

### Term 1

Fri 25 March—Good Friday  
Mon 28 March – Easter Monday  
Fri 8 April—Last day Term 1

### Term 2

Mon 25 April—Anzac Day  
Tue 26 April—1st Day Term 2  
Mon 13 June—Queen's Birthday  
Fri 1 July—Last day Term 2

### Term 3

Mon 18 July—1st day Term 3  
Fri 23 September —Last day Term 3

### Term 4

Mon 10 October —1st day Term 4  
Tue 20 December—Last day Term 4

**Please note:** NO Staff Development Days have been included in the above dates.

## 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.

**St Bernadette's Playgroup**—welcomes families with toddlers and pre-schoolers to attend playgroup on Monday and Thursday mornings. Children have fun with plenty of free play time, music time and a new craft activity every week.

Playgroup resumes for Term 1 on Thursday 4th Feb. For further information please call Carolyn Lincoln on 0411 547 285 or email [mickandcal@gmail.com](mailto:mickandcal@gmail.com).

## Cricket NSW—Milo T20 Blast:

7—12 year olds boys and girls  
8 week programs all over Sydney  
To register: visit [playcricket.com.au](http://playcricket.com.au) to find out more.

## Brumbies—Rugby League

The Baulkham Hills Brumbies Junior Rugby League Club includes students from St Michael's, Our Lady of Lourdes, St Bernadette's and St Angela's from U6s to U11s. The Brumbies play in the Parramatta Convents Association and games are played on Sunday's. Rego: \$130 for one child and \$190 for a family (which includes shorts, socks and a drink bottle). 2016—20 Year Anniversary—rego for U6s is \$30! Registration: Sunday 21st Feb at Castlewood Oval, Castle Hill between 10—12pm. You will require: original copies of birth and baptism certificates. Returning players registration online by Feb 14th. Contact: Brad Curl—0419 686 661 or Registrar: Simone Urquhart 0412 996 479. Email: [brumbiesjrllfc@gmail.com](mailto:brumbiesjrllfc@gmail.com)

## P&F Association—Executive Committee 2016

<b>President:</b>	Nick Gooley
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Jeff Younis
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Amanda Egan
<b>Secretary:</b>	Adrienne McGovern
<b>Executive Member:</b>	Alison Silvester
<b>Executive Member:</b>	Steve Vassallo
<b>Executive Member:</b>	Damian Kelly
<b>Hospitality Committee:</b>	Karen D'Souza
<b>Uniform Shop:</b>	Ann Hishion
<b>Parent Representative Council:</b>	Karen Orsini Alison Silvester
<b>Grade Parent Coordinator:</b>	Jeannette Barone
<b>Book Club Coordinator:</b>	Davina Pratt & Karen Lee
<b>Maintenance Coordinator:</b>	Naffa Arraf
<b>Donations/Sponsorship:</b>	Helen Stockdale
<b>Mothers/Fathers' Day Stall:</b>	Melissa Younan
<b>Social Media Coordinator:</b>	Monique Doyle
<b>2017 Fun Fair Coordinator:</b>	Sharyn Walsh

**St Bernadette's Netball Club**—is running a NetSetGo program at the school from 3—4pm on Friday afternoons for 7 weeks. Our first session is on 19th February. Boys and girls born in 2010 and 2011 are welcome to join us.

Contact the club registrar, Pauline Andrew, if you would like more information, at [P.Andrew@mail.com](mailto:P.Andrew@mail.com). The cost is \$60 which includes a NetSetGo pack: a netball, Tshirt, medal and wristband! Registrations close on 14 February.