



St Bernadette's School



Friday 18 March 2016

No. 7

Dear Parents,
Compassion is one of the core values of our school community.- the children refer to it each time they pray our school prayer

Loving God

*We follow in the footsteps of the Mercy Sisters
Always help us to show strength through
gentleness
in our words and actions.*

*Please bless the St Bernadette's community
as we learn to live out our values of respect,
honesty, tolerance, forgiveness, care and
compassion.*

Amen

Over the last weeks I have been encouraging the children's thinking by asking them when do they show compassion to others at school? When we think of others with compassion we will see their good points rather than judge them or criticise them. When we operate with a compassionate disposition we are more likely to empathise, help where we can and make a positive difference. Our kind thoughts leave us feeling good about others and about ourselves and lead us to positive actions.

I have drawn to the children's attention the many actions and times that as a school community we have demonstrated compassion towards those in need and the many times that our families have so generously and gently supported other families within our school. These examples give the children an understanding that as a community we are up to the challenge.

Of course our best support in growing compassion is the understanding of God's great and never ending love for us. He has given us each all that we need to share the light of kindness and compassion on everyone around us, most especially those in our own community.

*Thank you God for loving me
Help me to share Your love with others. Amen*

Leanne Nettleton—Principal

R.E. NEWS



The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a Sacrament of Healing. Our relationship with God is healed when we receive forgiveness during Reconciliation.

The children in our Parish have been involved in preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation and this week they received the sacrament for the first time, We will continue to keep the children in our prayers as they begin their preparation for receiving their first Eucharist.

In Week 9, on Holy Thursday, the children in our school will remember the events of Holy Week through reading the scriptures and praying about the significant events of Jesus' life.

Shane Robinson
Religious Education Coordinator

2016 Cross Country Captains

Red: Adam Bugarija & Mia Bayssari
Gold: Piper Laurie & James Bounassif
Blue: Isayah Maybury-Picatoste & Liana Zerafa
Green: Saxon Orsini & Katherine Sing

We congratulate the nominated Year 6 students who have been selected by their peers to be the 2016 Cross Country House Colour Leaders. They will be presented with their badges at Monday morning's assembly (21 March) at 8.30am.



Week 9 Dates

Mon 21 March
8.30am Assembly
2.45—4.30pm
Motiv8sports

Tue 22 March
1.10pm Choir
3-4pm Club Dance
Fever

Wed 23 March
Student Banking
Cross Country Carnival,
Fagan Park
3-4pm Aussie Hoops
Basketball
Dance Fever Challenge,
Homebush

Thurs 24 March
Holy Thursday
3-4pm Aussie Hoops
Basketball

Fri 25 March
Good Friday

Coming Dates:

Sunday 20 March
Palm Sunday

Tues 5 April
8.45am—60th
Anniversary Mass & Fun
Day

Mon 2 May
9am Mothers' Day Mass

Term Dates 2016

Term 1:
29 January—8 April

Term 2:
26 April—1 July

Term 3:
18 July—23 Sept

Term 4:
10 Oct—20 Dec

Student Workbooks coming home today

This week your children will be bringing home their English Workbooks and their Quick Write Book to share their learning with you. This is an opportunity for you to encourage your child to do his or her personal best.



What are Quick Writes?

Every child in the school K-6 has a book that they call their Quick Write Book. It is a book in which the children can think creatively and take risks with their writing. Teachers provide a wide variety of stimulus about which the children have an opportunity to talk about with another student in the class and then write about for just 10 minutes. The purpose of the Quick Write is to have the children think creatively and originally about a wide variety of topics.

Successful authors do this - they brainstorm many ideas and many styles of writing before they actually formally write a text. Successful writers keep a journal or a diary of these ideas and go to them when they want inspiration. The focus of a Quick Write is on creativity not on spelling and handwriting – those skills are covered everyday in other areas of the literacy block and are recorded in other English books. When your child shares their Quick Write Book with you ask them about, what they were thinking when they wrote a particular piece, the stimulus that provoked that piece of writing and why they wrote that piece of writing. You will notice that the teachers do not correct spelling and handwriting in these books because that is not the focus of a Quick Write.

As your child shares their work in their English Books with you, you may like to encourage him or her by reflecting ... in one or other of the following ways-

I can see that

1. You're on the right track now!
2. You're doing a good job!
3. You have done a lot of work so far this term!
4. Now you've figured it out!
5. You are improving ...
6. You have been doing some really hard work and hard thinking!
7. You are really trying!
8. You really enjoy learning about ...
9. You enjoyed ...
10. You are proud of the way you present your bookwork.

QCS survey

As per the article in last week's newsletter, parents who have been randomly selected to take part in this survey will receive their envelope next week.



You are asked to complete the survey (either online or via the attachments) by Friday 25th March 2016. Thank you for your support.

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

Food Treats at School

A gentle reminder to all families that the children are asked **not** to bring chocolates, ice blocks, Zooper Doopers or lollies to school in place of cupcakes to celebrate their birthdays with their class. As we have a large number of students who have food related allergies it is dangerous for these items to be brought to school. With the Easter season nearly upon us it is important that we as a community are able to ensure that Easter eggs and chocolates are not brought to school by the children to exchange as gifts or to share with others. Thank you for your efforts to make St Bernadette's a safe school for all students every day.

Parent Workshop—Maths

What is the MAI?
What does it look like?
How does the MAI impact on your child and their learning in Mathematics?
Why do we use the MAI?



Want to understand and further support your child in Mathematics?

These questions and more will be addressed at our next Parent Workshop.

When: Monday 4th April at 7pm

Venue: School Library

We hope to see you there!
We ask that interested parents send an email to the school on BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au to indicate their attendance. Thank you



Bullying – No Way

Today is the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. This annual day is Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools, and encourages all students to 'take a stand together' against bullying and violence in schools, the classroom and beyond.

St Bernadette's registered for this activity. Thanks to our lovely students who spoke at assembly on Monday morning and today children from various classes completed and displayed posters, watched movie clips on 'What is Bullying?', shared stories on how well they overcame difficult situations and wore wrist bands with the slogan 'Bullying No Way – Take a Stand Together.'

This was a great way to remind all of us how we should be with and treat each other, particularly thinking about our school values of respect, honesty, tolerance, forgiveness, care and compassion.

Olivia, Claudia and Angelina's poem can be found on the school's Facebook site on Monday.



Winter Uniform

The winter uniform will be available to purchase from Tuesday next week (22nd March—Week 9). Parents are able to pre-order using this form if the order is received at the school office by Friday for delivery the following Tuesday. Please note that payment must be made at the Uniform Shop when collection is made on Tuesday between 8 and 10 am. Payment can be made by Cash, Cheque, Credit Card or EFTPOS. Order form was emailed to parents today and is available from our website.



Students are permitted to wear either summer or winter uniform (not a mixture) for the first two weeks of **Term 2** depending on the weather. In Week 3 we ask that all students are in full winter uniform.

School Fees

Term 1 School Fees are now due. If you haven't already finalised your account for Term 1, could you please make a payment now or contact Mrs Vicki Cassidy on 9634-2898 or email vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au Fees can be made by cash, cheque, credit card, EFTPOS, BPAY or POSTBILL.

Kindergarten 2017

Thank you to parents who attended our Kindergarten Open Day recently. Please complete the enrolment form and return to the office as soon as possible so that an interview time can be organised with Mrs Nettleton.

We ask that enrolment forms be returned together with all necessary paperwork, copies of:

- Birth certificate
- Immunisation certificate
- Baptism certificate
- Passports & visas if parents or child were born overseas
- Small photo of child
- Proof of residential address



Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to meeting all of our new students and families in the near future.

Tuckshop Roster

Wednesday lunch: Nicola Martin

Friday lunch: Karen Grace

St Bernadette's Out of School Hours

Care—VACATION CARE—If you would like to book your child into COSHC during the school holidays—Opening Times are 7am to 6.15pm—Please contact Lauren Kane on 0408 582 595 for further details.

Sr Catherine Maddock—the founding Principal of Christ the King, North Rocks will be leaving the parish and returning to Ireland on 30th June. A mass of thanksgiving in her honour for over four decades of service to the CTK community and Catholic Education in the Diocese, will be celebrated on **Sunday 19th June at 10am** followed by morning tea. Those of you who have known Sr Catherine over this time are invited to join us for this very special occasion.

Gilroy Catholic College Musical

'Seussical' - Performance Dates: Wed 4, Thurs 5, Fri 6 and Sat 7 May at 7pm. Doors Open 6.30pm. Tickets: Adult \$30, Concession \$20 and Family \$80. Tickets available from: <http://www.trybooking.com/Event/EventListingURL.aspx?aid=9906> Tickets are also available at the door.