



# St Bernadette's School



Friday 11 November 2016

No. 35

Dear Parents,

## **God made us each as unique masterpieces**

There is no doubt that our earliest relationships provide a model for all our future relationships, and learning to trust other people as feeling, thoughtful human beings, will form the basis for having happy, satisfying relationships.

To develop these happy, satisfying relationships, we need to have a sense of 'others'. That is from a very early age we begin to see ourselves as part of a network of important people who love and care for us and who we love and care for too. It is in the family home that children learn to be considerate, tolerant and respectful; this learning comes through parental guidance and example. Actions really do speak louder than words.

When children are polite, kind, honest and cooperative, they develop character and exhibit social skills that help others feel comfortable. These relationship building skills, also help children, and adults, to get on with friends and neighbours and, if the occasion arises, to resolve differences of opinion in a courteous and healthy way.

As adult role models we have an important role to play in guiding our children to celebrate difference amongst their friends rather than be frightened of it or threatened by it. Children learn this firstly within their family and then at school. Assisting our children in this area equips them with a great life skill.

**Leanne Nettleton**  
**Principal**

## R.E. NEWS



Remembrance Day (also known as Poppy Day or Armistice Day) is a memorial day observed in Commonwealth countries since the end of World War I to remember the members of their armed forces who have died in the line of duty. Today we commemorated this event, and remembered all those who have died in wars, with a special service of prayer, reflection and silence.



*O God, our ruler and guide,  
In whose hands are the destinies of this and  
every nation,  
We give you thanks for the freedoms we  
enjoy  
in this land  
and for those who laid down their lives to  
defend them:  
we pray that we and all the people of  
Australia,  
Gratefully remembering their courage and  
their sacrifice,  
may have the grace to live in a spirit of  
justice,  
of generosity, and of peace; Amen*



## Week 6 Dates

**Mon 14 November**  
8.30am Assembly  
2.45—4.30pm  
Motiv8sports

**Tue 15 November**  
1.10pm Choir

**Wed 16 November**  
Student Banking  
8.45am Kindy 2017  
Orientation & Parent  
(Maths) Meeting  
Yr 5 Excursion to  
Botanical Gardens

**Fri 18 November**  
1.40pm Whole School  
Assembly—Parents  
invited (Church)

**Coming Dates:**  
**28 Nov**—K & Yr 1  
Swimming program

**2 Dec**—Swimming  
Carnival

**6 Dec**—9am  
Thanksgiving Mass &  
Morning Tea

**8 Dec**—Term 4  
Principal's Morning Tea  
**6pm Christmas  
Celebration (school)**

**13 Dec**—9am Infants  
Awards Ceremony  
(Church)  
11am Primary Awards  
Ceremony (Church)

**15 Dec**—Year 6  
Graduation Mass

**18 Dec**—Year 6 Activities  
Day & Last day for  
students

## 2017 Kinder Transition

Congratulations to our 2017 Kindergarten children who enjoyed a lovely session at school on Tuesday in the Kindergarten classrooms. We look forward to welcoming the children again next Wednesday for their second transition session while their parents join Mr Visser and Mrs Metwally for a Numeracy Information Session in the hall.



## Electronic Sign

You will have noticed that our much awaited electronic sign has been installed at our Brisbane Road entry. I am very thankful to Mr Mike Fagan from the parish who coordinated this project on our behalf. There were many hurdles to be jumped and Mike showed great expertise throughout the entire process.



## Canteen Procedures

- Parents are asked to ensure that children who wish to purchase lunch from the canteen do so via a lunch order. This can be done either through the MunchMonitor website or by a lunch order brought into school. Please do not give your child money to purchase their lunch over the counter.
- Children who order milkshakes need to eat their lunch first and then go to the canteen with their lunch order bag and collect their milkshake.

## School Hours

The school day commences at 8.30am. It is the responsibility of every parent to have their child at school before the bell goes at 8.30am. Arriving in the school driveway, car park or at the entrance gate does not count as having your child at school on time. Children who habitually arrive after the bell are being taught by their families that it is OK to be tardy and that in life punctuality is not a priority or a necessity. Work places, sporting activities and even creative arts performances all require those attending to be on time. If your children are habitually late you are urged to please address this situation now.

## Christmas Toy Appeal

This term all classes have focused on their Mission Unit. They have learnt that mission and service are following Jesus' greatest commandment, 'To love one another as I have loved you.' As part of our mission focus we have looked at the neighbours we can help. We raised money to send to Cambodia, for the mobile schools that are helping teach the children who can't afford to go to school. We also spoke about the Indigenous community in Wadeye, Northern Territory where children may only receive a piece of fruit for Christmas, so we have asked children to donate a small toy for The Wadeye Christmas Appeal by **Friday 18th November**.



## Christmas Toy Appeal cont ...

The toys will then be posted to Darwin and then flown to Wadeye, NT. Some examples of toys that could be brought in are deflated soccer/rugby balls, skipping ropes, jacks, UNO cards and marbles. Thanking you in advance for your support with this appeal.

## Week 5 & 6 Social Skills—Being Polite and Courteous

*Many of us are courteous and polite  
Even with strangers we are meeting.  
But being nice has much more might  
As it lasts longer than just a greeting.  
Thank you, you're welcome and please  
Are words most are taught as a child  
Being a really nice person with ease  
Takes a very long, long while. (Jean Garney)*

We are working together to display our manners by being polite and courteous on a daily basis. We treat people equally and we try to make everyone feel special and happy at our school.

**Mrs Kathy Watt**

## 'Christmas on the Grass'

Please join us for the St Bernadette's Christmas Concert on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**, commencing at 6pm. Bring either a picnic blanket or low chair to watch the children who will perform on the grass area. Each grade will preform a part of the Christmas Story through song and action. Hope you can join us for a lovely community celebration.



## Celebration Sing Out 2016

Congratulations to the members of our school choir for their wonderful performance at Sydney Town Hall on Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> October. We were delighted and honoured that three of our Year 6 students (Lachlan Daly, Laura Gracie and Abbey Robinson) were selected for a solo part in One Little Candle. The opportunity to perform with a massed choir and at times accompanied by the TOPS Orchestra and magnificent Town Hall pipe organ is one the students will never forget.

All the proceeds from the concert this year went to the Music Therapy program at Westmead Children's Hospital. We wish to thank the parents who supported us and to Mrs Nettleton for her encouragement, support and presence on the night.

**Mrs Evans, Mrs Hurba and Mrs Donnelly**





## Performance Band Tour

Congratulations to our fantastic Performance Band who, last Friday, spent the day sharing their musical talents with staff and students at St Bernadette's and the local community.

Starting the day with a performance at morning assembly this group of 28 students also visited another local primary school in Parramatta East, a day care centre (Beehive, Castle Hill) and finished their day with a performance at Castle Hill RSL.

Performance Band is the most senior of the school's three bands and students have had to work hard to be selected in this group. They give up their lunchtimes every Friday to rehearse so this day trip was both a great reward for their dedication as well as an opportunity to showcase their skills to appreciative audiences.

A huge thank you to Mr Butler, Mr Masman and Mr Lavis for their time putting this tour together and to Mrs Hui who helped us on the day. Thanks also to the parents who came to watch us perform at Castle Hill RSL (and helped Mr Lavis load the van afterwards!!)

If you missed our performance last Friday, keep an eye out for details of our final performance for the year at the Castle Hill 'Christmas Skyshow' in December at Castle Towers.

**Steven Lavis**

**Music Director – Teaching Services Australia**



**R.I.P.** †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to the Stennett family (Alexander in 5G & Patrick in 5B), following the recent passing of their grandmother. May she rest in peace.



## Are you moving?

To estimate enrolments for 2017, it would be appreciated if the school could be notified in writing of any children who may be leaving St Bernadette's at the end of the year from grades other than Year 6.



You are reminded that CEO policy is that families need to give the school one full term's notice in writing in these circumstances. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Lost Property:

There is currently 4 Garmin watches in the office and two pairs of glasses. If you have lost any of these items please contact the school office.

## St Bernadette's Netball Club—NetSetGo

**NetSetGo Certificates:** If your daughter participated in Friday NetSetGo during Term 3, she will receive her certificate at the Week 6 school assembly on Friday 18 November.

**Vacancies in Teams:** You can still register for 2017 if there are vacancies in your child's age group. Both 7 year-old teams (born in 2010) remain open. You can check <http://sbnc.nsw.netball.com.au/> to see if there are still spots in older groups, then email the registrar, Pauline Andrew at [P.Andrew@mail.com](mailto:P.Andrew@mail.com) or call 0403 762 796. Grading Day Information: Will be emailed to registered members.

## St Gabriel's School—Christmas Gift Wrapping

Volunteers are required to help with Christmas gift wrapping at Castle Towers. Over the past 8 years \$33,000 has been raised for St Gabriel's School from this service. Bring a friend and join in the fun for a minimum of 2 hours. You just need to be able to wrap gifts of all shapes and sizes!

Dates: Saturday 10 December to Christmas Eve

Please visit [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and enter the code Z6QVJ to book your time—and thank you!

## Term 1 2017:

**Fri 27 Jan -  
Staff Development & Pupil Free Day**

**Mon 30 Jan—  
Staff Dev Day/Pupil Free & MAI Interviews (pm)**

**Tue 31 Jan—  
Yrs 1 to 6 commence at 8.30am**

**Wed 1 Feb—  
Kindergarten start at 8.30am**