



# St Bernadette's School



Friday 2 December 2016

No. 39

Dear Parents,

Throughout this year our children have been striving to be the face of Jesus to those within our community and within the wider community. There could not be a better time for us to focus on 'being Jesus to others' than at Christmas. This year when Mother Teresa was declared a saint we were reminded that each and everyone of us actually does have the capacity to make a significant difference to the lives of others in our everyday actions and interactions. Today as we journey closer to the birth of Jesus I include St Teresa's prayer for your reflection and perhaps your family's daily prayer focus in these last days of advent.

### St Teresa's Prayer

Christ has no body now but mine  
No hands, no feet on earth but mine.  
Christ has no body now but mine  
Let me be Christ, let me shine.

Mine are the eyes, with which he looks,  
Looks with love upon the world.  
Mine are the feet with which he walks,  
Walks to do good in this world.

Mine are the hands with which he works.  
Works for peace here in this world.  
Mine is the voice with which he speaks,  
Speaks his message to the world.

Mine is the face with which he smiles,  
Smiles a welcome to this world.  
Mine is the heart with which he loves,  
Loves all people in this world.

**Leanne Nettleton—Principal**

Photos from  
our  
'Christmas  
on the Grass'  
concert last  
night.



## R.E. NEWS



Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent. It is known as 'Gaudete' Sunday, which means rejoice in Latin. It comes from the first words of the antiphon on Sunday. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, 'The Lord is near.' The third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose coloured, and the rose coloured vestments often used at the Eucharist, marks this joyful spirit.

As we move through this week feeling part of the waiting world and rejoicing in the coming of the Lord we can say the following prayer with our families;

*Prepare our hearts  
and remove the sadness  
that hinders us from feeling  
the joy and hope  
which his presence  
will bestow.*



**Shane Robinson**  
**Religious Education Coordinator**

### Week 10 Dates

**Mon 12 December**  
8.30am Assembly &  
School Values Award  
presentation

**Tue 13 December**  
8.40am Primary Awards  
Ceremony (Church)  
9.40am Infants Awards  
Ceremony (Church)  
1.10pm Choir

**Wed 14 December**

**Thurs 15 December**  
7pm Year 6 Graduation  
Mass (Church)

**Fri**  
Year 6 Activities Day  
Last day for students

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## Remember the following as you prepare for the new school year

All students are expected to wear the St Bernadette's uniform with pride throughout the school year. This includes wearing the correct hat, socks and shoes. This helps to keep students focused on their learning whilst also keeping a consistent atmosphere across the school. Please note the following uniform expectations from Kindergarten to Year 6:

Socks are fold over ankle socks

Shoes are black leather lace ups/Velcro/buckle Joggers that are predominantly white are to be worn for sport. They must be predominantly white, with white laces - no slip on 'Raben' type shoes nor coloured joggers, runners or basketball boots are to be worn.

## School Canteen

Parents are reminded that all over the counter sales are 'cash only'. This is as per the agreement entered into with the canteen provider. It appears that children have been charging over the counter items to accounts set up by parents. Unfortunately, we are unable to manage this at a practical level as it causes a long wait period in lines for all children, leaving a number of children not being served. Also we have noticed that children are buying food items for other children which is very dangerous as no child should be accessing food items without the knowledge of their own parent. Lastly, we have noticed children purchasing large amounts of over the food items when they are charging them to accounts. A new manager will be appointed in 2017.

## Summer Reading Challenge

Have you entered the Summer Reading Challenge yet? Haven't heard about it yet? Well it's on now!

Entry is easy go to [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

to find out how you could win a mini iPad. You have all summer to enter and the more times you enter the more chances you have to win. Entries close on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

Not only is there the Parramatta Diocese competition but St Bernadette's Summer Reading Challenge is about to begin. Details about our own special competition will be sent home with your children in Week 10. Don't forget to keep reading over the summer break so that you have a flying start into 2017.



## SHINE Hills School Excellence Awards

Each year, Castle Hill RSL hosts the **SHINE Hills Schools Excellence Awards** recognising student achievement across academic, sport, music and arts and leadership and community service. With the theme of 'Inspiring Our Youth', in 2016 three students were nominated in the categories of academic, sport and community service. It is a credit to these students, their parents and teachers that the three nominees were successful! Their efforts were truly inspirational!

Congratulations to Rachel Antoni (Academic), Saxon Orsini (Sport) and Jake Collyer (Community Service).



## Advance Notice—Welcome BBQ Friday 3rd February 2017

An invitation has been sent to all Kindergarten and new families to the school in 2017. We hope you will be able to join us as we welcome you to St Bernadette's School.



## 2017 Diocesan School Fees

School fees for 2017 have been released by the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta. These details are attached to this newsletter.

## 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.





### Uniform Shop

A reminder that **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** is the last day to make purchases from the uniform shop this year. We are open from 8am-10am or send your completed order form to the office for items to be sent home with your child.

The shop will be closed for the school holidays and reopen on **Tuesday 31 January, 8 to 10am.**

### Second Hand Uniforms

We always welcome donations of second hand uniforms in good condition. Items can be sent in with your child or dropped into the shop on Tuesdays. A 'last day' collection box will also be in place for Year 6. Further details will be sent to Year 6 families shortly.

### Volunteers

Thank you to our wonderful helpers this year, Kim O'Reilly, Nicola Martin and Natasha Haywood. The giving of your time has been very much appreciated. Special thanks also to James Ransome-Haberley (Yr6) and Grace Towner (Yr5) who helped before school every Tuesday with setting up the shop. Well done!

**Ann Hishion & Michelle Towner**  
**Uniform Shop Coordinators**

### Year 5 - Final Social Event of the Year

Please join us at Erlestoke Park, Castle Hill (off Erlestoke Place) for an end of year picnic straight after school pickup on the last day of school, Friday 16 December. We'd love to see you if you can make it. Thank you for your support this year and we wish you a happy, holy Christmas.

Your Yr 5 Grade Parents, Susan, Michelle & Fiona



### Term 4:

10 Oct—16 Dec

19 & 20 Dec—Staff Dev & Pupil Free Days

### Term 1 2017:

Fri 27 Jan -Staff Development & Pupil Free Day

Mon 30 Jan—Staff Dev Day & MAI Interviews

Tue 31 Jan—Yrs 1 to 6 commence

Wed 1 Feb—Kindergarten start

*The first Christmas enacted by St Bernadette's students at our Christmas on the Grass celebration*



*Unto us a child is born.*

