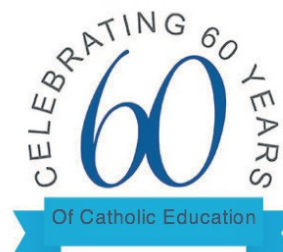




St Bernadette's School



Friday 27th October 2017

No. 33

Dear Parents,

Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

It is important that our children know that God does not want us to struggle and do things on our own. What we accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best but with His help we can accomplish a great deal more in our lives. The following story helps to make this point:

When the house lights dimmed and the concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that her child was missing. Suddenly the curtains parted and the spotlight focused upon the impressive Steinway on stage. In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle little Star".

At that moment, the Great Piano Master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered into the boy's ear: "Don't quit. Keep playing". Then leaning over the piano the master reached down with his left hand and began filling in the bass part. Soon his right hand reached around the other side of the child, and he added a running obbligato. Together the old master and the young novice transformed what could have been a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience. The audience was so mesmerized that they couldn't recall what else the Great Master played. – only the classic "Twinkle, Twinkle little star".

Perhaps this is the way that it is with God. We try our best on our own, but the results aren't always graceful flowing music. However with the help of the Great Master, our life's work can be truly beautiful. The next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You may hear the voice of the Master, whispering in your ear "Don't quit. Keep playing."

May you feel His arms around you and know that His hands are there helping you turn your attempts into masterpieces.

Remember God doesn't seem to call the equipped, rather, he equips the called.

Leanne Nettleton—Principal

R.E. NEWS



This week we looked at the final two mysteries of the Rosary as well as the special prayer that is said at the end of the five mysteries, the Hail Holy Queen.

The Sorrowful Mysteries: (Said on Tuesdays, Fridays throughout the year; and daily from Ash Wednesday until Easter Sunday)

1. Agony in the Garden 2. Scourging at the Pillar 3. Crowning with Thorns 4. Carrying the Cross 5. The Crucifixion

The Glorious Mysteries: (Said on

Wednesdays and Sundays from Easter until Advent)

1. The Resurrection 2. The Ascension 3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit 4. The Assumption 5. The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Hail Holy Queen (Said after the completion of the five mysteries).



Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our Hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, O most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement! O loving! O sweet Virgin Mary

Please support our Mini Vinnies social justice initiative for the Philippines. The Mini Vinnies have raised awareness

throughout the school of the importance of oral hygiene in the Philippines. They have challenged the students to bring in at least 1 toothbrush per student. Can you HELP?

Please return them by Wednesday 8th November. Lets really try to reach our target!

Mrs Shane Robinson—REC



Week 4 Dates

Mon 30 October
8.30am Assembly

Tue 31 October
8-10am Uniform Shop
Yrs 3/4/5/6 Basketball
Gala Day
1.10pm Choir

Wed 1 November
Student Banking
Waste Free Lunch Day
7pm Kindy 2018 Parent Meeting

Thurs 2 November
7pm Yr 4 Parent Meeting

Fri 3 November
Band Demonstration
(Yrs 2 to 5) & Tour

Coming Dates:
Mon 6 November
Staff Spirituality Day & Pupil Free Day

Wed 8 November
8.45—10.15am Kindy 18
1st Orientation Day & Parent Workshop

Tues 14 November
8.45-10.15am Kindy 18
2nd Orientation Day & Parent Workshop
7pm P&F Final Meeting
8pm P&F AGM

Tues 21 November
8.45—10.15am Kindy 18
Final Orientation Day & Parent Workshop

Thurs 23 November
Swimming Carnival

Tues 5 Dec
9am Thanksgiving Mass

Thurs 7 Dec
5.30pm Christmas on the Grass Celebration

Address: 357 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill NSW 2154 Phone: 9407 6600 Fax: 9680 2282

Email: BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au Website: <http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stbernadettesprimary/> Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/StBernadettes2>

Welcome

I would like to welcome and introduce Mr Stephen Bamford who will join the St Bernadette's staff from next Monday. For the remainder of this term Mr Bamford will be teaching across the school and in 2018 he will be a class teacher at St Bernadette's.

Class Groups in 2018

In 2018 there will continue to be 3 classes in Kindergarten, Year 2/3/4/5 & 6. Given the enrolments in the 2017 Kindergarten, for 2018 there will be two Year One class groups.

Over the next few weeks the teachers spend a significant amount of time ensuring that all students have a positive transition from one year to the next. This includes teachers meeting with each other to learn about all the students that they will be teaching the following year. This is a very thorough and thoughtful process.

This year the children currently in Years One, Three and Five will progress to their next year level group in the same class group. Children in Kinder, Two and Four will have their class groups rearranged into newly formed classes giving children an opportunity to learn with other children. Teachers take many factors into consideration when re-grouping children including social and learning needs.

Year 4 Parent Meeting Reminder

Year 4 parents are invited to a Parent Meeting on Thursday November 2 at 7pm in the Year 5 Learning Space to participate in a 'Conversation about Learning in Years 5 and 6' and to hear about the BYOD Technology programme for Year 5 students. This is an important meeting for all 2017 Year 4 Parents to attend. Please RSVP your attendance via email.

Thanksgiving Mass and Mr Visser's Farewell Invitation

An invitation is extended to all of the St Bernadette's community who have helped out at school during the year to our Thanksgiving Mass on Tuesday 5th December at 9am in the Church. Mass will be followed by a thank you morning tea and an opportunity for parents to say thank you and farewell to Mr Visser. Please join us.



'Christmas on the Grass'

Please join us for the St Bernadette's Christmas Concert on **Thursday 7th December**, commencing at 5:30pm. Bring either a picnic blanket or low chair to watch the children who will perform on the grass area. Each grade will perform a part of the Christmas Story through song and action. Hope you can join us for a lovely community celebration. The P & F will be providing a free Sausage Sizzle and will have soft drinks on sale for \$2 and water for \$1.



HELP WITH MATHS

Enthusiasm for and interest in maths and numeracy for children relies on making it appealing, relevant and challenging for them. There are many ways in our everyday lives where we can 'play' with maths and help our children. Start early, 'play' often.

When we walk down the street, or stroll at a park or along the beach, point out the different objects around them – houses, cars, trees, signs, shells, swings and so on.

Talk about the shapes, sizes and angles around them, look for similarities and differences between them – the number of circles or cars, size order of angles, most popular colour, patterns



in registration plates, number of wheels, etc.? Can you find some parallel lines? Curved versus straight lines? How many angles are there in the beach chair?

Talk about the weather - the temperature, have there been hotter days or cooler days before this day, wind speed and direction, or the speed and direction of your walking pace.



Estimate how far it is to places along your path.

Collect leaves or shells and make repeating patterns on the sand.

Play games - I spy with my little eye, something that's shorter than you, or something that is taller than the trees or something west of where you're standing.

Above all, when you talk with your child about the world around them - be descriptive, point out some of the many things that we as grown-ups take for granted and use appropriate mathematical terminology. Build on what they notice about shapes, numbers and measures. When children listen to you describe the maths in the world around them and see what you point out, they come to appreciate how much mathematics there is in the world and the need for them to be mathematical thinkers.

Peter Visser—Mathematics

School Library

Parents: over the next two weeks notes regarding overdue books will be sent home. If there is a problem regarding the books already being returned or maybe returned to the wrong place please write a short note on the overdue note and return it to me in the library. Thank you for your continued support in caring for our library books.



Mrs Crammond—Librarian

Student Council War on Waste initiative – Waste Free Wednesdays

Don't forget – EVERY Wednesday pack a waste free lunch.

Turning Out of the School Driveway into Brisbane Road

All vehicles exiting the school in the morning and afternoon are requested to take great care as this driveway access is close to the Brisbane Road pedestrian crossing and both before and after school it is an area of high usage by both children and adults. Please adhere to the times and instructions displayed on the sign on the driveway as this is being patrolled by the police and traffic fines will be imposed for any infringements.

Attendance

We have fallen just short of our target of 90% again this week:

89.7%

Year 4's attendance is again up from last week and nearly 95% - great job! Kindy, Year 3 and Year 5 also achieved over the 90% target- well done!

Please remember that you are responsible for ensuring your child complies with attendance requirements – that is – that they attend **whenever instruction is provided**.

Illness and injury notwithstanding, do you encourage your child to attend school on a regular and on time basis? If not, what does this say about the value you place on your children's education and future?

Medical practitioners do make appointments outside of school hours – although sometimes you may need to be like the Persistent Widow in Luke 18:1-8 - and keep asking. Be insistent, be persistent.

P&F Association Final Meeting & AGM

Tuesday 14th November 7pm / 8pm – School Library

All parents are invited to attend the P&F Association's final meeting of the year at 7pm which will be followed by the AGM at 8pm.

An email for the Annual General Meeting will be sent to all families this afternoon with a nomination form to be part of next year's P&F Committee. All forms are to be returned by Monday 13th November.

Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations and best wishes to Miss Doherty who will be married on 2nd December 2017. We wish Stephanie and her fiancé, Nadav every happiness.



World Teachers Day

A huge thank you to the P&F Association for their delicious morning tea for teachers this morning.



Year 1 Fagan Park Family Picnic

11.30am this Sunday 29 October

Meet at the main park area on the bank next to the café. Look for the coloured balloons. See you there!

Yr 1 Grade Parents

Christmas at Oakhill College

Join us for a family night with your picnic basket and blanket to enjoy an evening of live music and Christmas festivities!

Friday December 1st 5.30—7.30pm (All proceeds of the event go to Ronald McDonald House). Face painting/ sausage sizzle & Santa. Free ticketed event—get your tickets at Trybooking.com 'Christmas@Oakhill'.

School Carnival—Our Lady of Lourdes, Baulkham Hills

Sat 4 November 10—4pm. Lots of fun activities, Rides, International Food, Art & Craft, stalls and so much more. Hope you can join us for a great day out.

Term Dates 2017

Term 4:

Mon 9 October to Friday 15 December (for students)
Mon 6 November—Staff Spirituality /Pupil Free Day
Mon 18 December—Staff Development & Pupil Free Day

Term 1 2018

Mon 29 Jan

Staff Dev Day / Pupil Free Day / *MAI Day

Tue 30 Jan

*MAI Day / Pupil Free Day

Wed 31 Jan

Yrs 1 to 6 commence

*Maths Assessment Interview



Are you going 'Trick or Treating' for Halloween on Tuesday 31st October, 2017?

NSW Police recommend you do not participate in this activity. However, if you choose to participate, here are some things you should consider:

- Is it safe to take sweets or lollies from strangers?
- Do I know the person whose door I am knocking on?
- Will I get into trouble from police if I play a 'prank' or damage property?
- What if a stranger talks to me?



Remember your safety tips from the NSW Police 'Keeping Me Safe' initiative:

- Safety in numbers! Walk in a group. Never walk alone. Ensure you have adult supervision.
- Hold hands and cross roads at safe locations such as marked crossings and/or traffic light intersections. Don't forget to 'Stop, Look, Listen and Think.'
- Do not take candy, lollies, chocolate from strangers.
- Do not talk to strangers other than the people nominated as 'Safe people' from 'Safe places'
- If you feel unsafe or unsure remember to tell a stranger 'No' 'Stop' and/or 'Go away'

If you would still like to celebrate the occasion, perhaps you could consider celebrating at home.

Police will not tolerate poor behaviour, particularly in public so remember your manners just like every other day of the year.

If you have any questions, please contact Senior Constable Rob Paterson, Youth Liaison Officer from Castle Hill Police. Call 000 if you require immediate assistance or 9680 5399 for Castle Hill Police.

