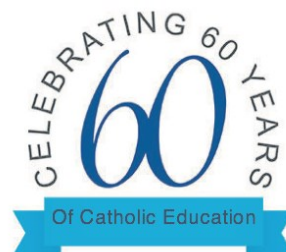




St Bernadette's School



Friday 18th May 2018

No. 14

Dear Parents,

Parents have been appointed by God himself as the first and principal educators of their children (Pope John Paul II)

A couple of years ago, a university study asked a randomly selected number of parents to respond to the question, "What does it mean to be a parent?" Here are extracts from three responses:

"Responsibility for teaching about love and caring for others, responsibility for keeping them safe and secure so their personalities can develop in a healthy way."

"Something very special, close and loving; it means an enormous responsibility, it changes your life-course; once you start being a parent, it's an ongoing thing with worries and anxieties attached."

"It's the most important job you'll ever have to do in your life. The social ramifications of parenting are so important, because the responsibility is yours to bring happy, well-adjusted people into adulthood ... and the joy and despair are often only seconds apart."

It can be helpful, on occasion, to think about our role as parents, for it is truly a privilege to have given life to a child and have accepted the responsibility, great though it is, of nurturing and providing for that child through those developmental Years.

As parents, we are the source of our child's affirmation. Children will believe what the people they love and trust believe, including how they feel about school and their own ability to learn. So, after praise and encouragement, encourage perseverance. A warm, supportive home atmosphere will influence our child's confidence and motivation to become a successful learner.

If education is valued in the home and seen as life-enhancing, then children will view their schooling as being positive for them and worth investing their energies in.

At St Bernadette's we have teachers who are professionals and who serve to help you nurture your child's love of learning. Parents and teachers working in collaboration is a powerful combination that can present education as a happy and fulfilling experience for children.

Leanne Nettleton—Principal

R.E. NEWS



Pentecost always falls 50 days after Easter. It celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and the Virgin Mary. It is often called the 'the birthday of the Church'. The disciples of Jesus were waiting to receive the Holy Spirit because that is what Jesus told them would happen. Just before He was taken up to heaven he told them that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on them and they would be his witnesses in the whole world (Acts 1:8). The disciples and other Christians had come together to thank God and suddenly a sound like the blowing of a strong wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were singing. Next, they saw tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. When the tongues of fire came they were filled with the Holy Spirit and the disciples began speaking in different languages.



The main message for the disciples was to go out and spread the Good News. That is our mission today as Catholics. We must spread the Good News to all we meet. Let others know about our faith, do not be afraid to let everyone know that we follow Christ.

Week 4 Dates

Mon 21 May
8.30am Assembly
Lunchtime Clubs:
Library & Homework

Tue 22 May
8-10am Uniform Shop
Lunchtime Clubs:
Library, Choir, Science
& Lego

Wed 23 May
Student Banking Day
Waste Free Lunch Day
Lunchtime Clubs:
Library, Art, Robotics &
Coding, Gardening

Thurs 24 May
Lunchtime Clubs:
Library, Chess
Yr 6 Canberra Exc.
Design2Shine 4G

Fri 25 May
Yr 6 Canberra Exc.
Design2Shine 4G
1.40pm Whole School
Assembly—Parents
Invited

Coming Dates:
Tues 29 May
School Photo Day

Wed 30 May
School Photo Day

Thurs 31 May
9-10am School Tours
for Kindy to Yr 6 2019
Yr 5 Hyde Park Barracks
Exc.

Fri 1 June
Choir—Captivate
Rehearsal

Sat 16 June
Working Bee

RE NEWS Cont ...

Perhaps this week we could do that by inviting a friend or family member along to come to Mass with us and then enjoy the wonderful food from many countries at the Parish Food Fiesta.



Please keep the children of our Parish in your prayers, as they continue their Eucharist preparation this week.

Enrolling Now—Kindergarten to Yr 6 2019

School Tours: Thursday 31 May 9—10am and Wednesday 20 June 9—10am.

Prospective parents are invited to attend our next School Tour on either of the above dates. Come in and meet our principal and have a tour of our school/classrooms. Please contact the school office to reserve your place on 9407 6600 or email us at Bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au

Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning survey

In the coming weeks we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process. An email will be sent to all families next week with a link to the URL which will give you access to the survey. The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. I encourage all families to take the opportunity to provide this very valuable feedback to our school.

World Youth Day Raffle Tickets

All sold butts and unsold ticket books for the WYD raffle can still be returned to the school office. Please finalise this by Friday 25th May. Please ensure that all unsold booklets are returned. Thank you!



Debating

This week our debating team participated in the first round of the Hills Cluster Debating Competition. Our debaters debated against St Madeleine's, Kenthurst and prepared speeches on the topic Australia should close all of its zoos. Well done to the following students:

Affirmative

Rachael Hanna
Savannah Moubarak
Laila Campagna
Kiara Claridge

Negative

Macey Kinnane
Mia Lagana
Isabella Muscat
Aimee Coulter

Canteen

A reminder that there is NO CANTEEN until further notice.



Digital Security Presentation Wednesday 6th June

Unfortunately please note that Senior Constable Rob Paterson has had to postpone his presentation to our parents on Digital Security. We are rescheduling this presentation for Term 3 and will let you know the new date in newsletters to follow.

Peer Support

Stronger Together - Fostering an inclusive environment through positive relationships.

We have some extremely talented students at St Bernadette's! This week in Peer Support students were identifying their strengths and how they can use their strengths when faced with different situations. It was wonderful to see many students identifying our School values as part of their strengths; listening, respecting others, caring for their friends, forgiving others, were all examples many students were able to draw upon when asked how they would deal with different situations.

In Week 4, the focus for our Peer Support lesson will be looking at the different relationships we have at home and at school. Students will discuss with their Peer Support Leader, Teacher and peers the different ways they can build positive relationships at school and how we can again apply our strengths of honesty, respect, forgiveness and kindness to enrich and sustain our relationships. We will also be focusing on strategies to ensure we are promoting an inclusive environment. Over the weekend we encourage all parents to talk with their children about the different relationships we are a part of at home, at school and within the community, ready for their lesson on Monday. *Mrs Borg - Peer Support Coordinator*

Attendance

Every Learner Every Day—Attendance rate to date is 92.4%

Our community believes that every day counts for every child. Our attendance levels are recorded below. Congratulations to Year 2, 4 and 5 who continue to exceed the schools target of 90% each week. Also well done to our other grades while still below 90% have improved this week and are moving closer to our goal. Keep up the good work.



every learner
every day



Attendance cont ...

A reminder that school begins at 8:30am and all children are expected to be ready to begin the day with their peers at this time. Supervision commences at 8am.

Kindy	89.5%	Yr 4	96.1%
Yr 1	88.9%	Yr 5	93.8%
Yr 2	96.3%	Yr 6	87.5%
Yr 3	89.7%		

Social Skills: Weeks 3 & 4

Being a Caring Student at St Bernadette's

Caring is about giving love and attention to people and things that matter to you. You treat them gently and with respect. Caring people think about how others are feeling. They don't just think about themselves.

At St. Bernadette's we are caring towards all those we come in contact with. We do kind things. We think about other's feelings and show we are concerned by what we say and do. We are sensitive to how other people are feeling. We know when others are upset or need assistance. We want to help the other person feel better. Learning about the beliefs and opinions of others can help us to understand all people at our school. Caring people at St. Bernadette's are tolerant to those who are different to us.

Family Discussion Questions:

How well do we know our neighbours?

What is the kindest thing that anybody has done for you?

What is the kindest thing that you have done for someone else?

Show an act of kindness towards someone you know, let them know that you care.

Mrs Kathy Watt

School Photos

As previously advised the school photographer will be here on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th May. All photo envelopes need to be returned to class teacher **prior** to photo day, this is individual and family (sibling) ones. Sibling photos will be taken on Tuesday and Wednesday at recess and lunch. A schedule will be placed in next week's newsletter.



Student Council War on Waste initiative – Waste Free Wednesdays

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

Herb-Veggie-Seed Sale!

St Bernadette's Generous Growers Group are having a herb, veggie and seed sale!

When: Tuesday 22nd May 8:00-8:25am

Where: Small passive grass area, outside staffroom.

What: Selection of herb bunches, veggie bags and seeds for \$1 and \$2. Cut fresh that morning.



Reminder—Student Clothing

Please ensure that your child has everything they need for the school day when they leave home in the morning. The school office is being continually interrupted with hats and jackets being brought in by during the morning. Please also ensure that all clothing is labelled.

Busways School Opal Tap Campaign Term 2

This term will see Busways Inspectors checking to ensure students are using their Opal cards when boarding the school bus. Students that do not present a valid Opal card will be asked to pay a fare. Failure to produce a valid Opal card or bus fare will result in the Inspector recording the student's name.

All students need to produce a •School Opal card •Child/Youth Opal card •Or pay a fare to travel on our buses.



Parish News:

PENTECOST SUNDAY 20TH MAY

St Bernadette's Parish, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill 11.30am—3pm Please join us for a day of fun, entertainment, games for the kids and international food: Chinese, Lebanese, Italian, Mexican, Australian, Malaysian, Aussie BBQ and more. Food tickets \$10 for a book of 5. See you there!



Term 2

Tuesday 1 May (students return) to Fri 6 July

Term 3

Mon 23 July to Fri 28 September

Term 4

Mon 15 October to Wed 19 December (for students)

R.I.P. †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to Mr & Mrs Gooley (Mr Gooley was our former P&F President) and their family, Tess 2G and two older sons, following the recent passing of Mr Gooley's mother. May she rest in peace.

