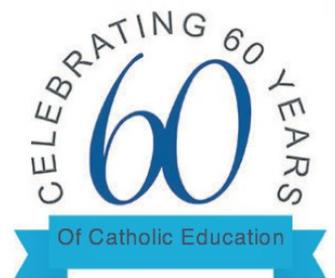




St Bernadette's School



Friday 2nd March 2018

No. 5

Dear Parents,

Every Learner, Every day Transforming Lives

Next week we take time to celebrate the uniqueness of Catholic Education in delivering the mission of the Catholic Church. This is a time of great celebration for us all as we recognise the many contributions of pastors, families, staff and the wider community.

At St Bernadette's we are committed to the development of the whole person, and this takes precedence over everything else. Any one who visits our school should immediately recognise through sign, symbol, action and relationship that we are authentically Catholic. This is what we strive to convey to any person that sets foot into our school, from the front foyer, through to the learning spaces and play areas; that St Bernadette's is a welcoming caring school one in which the values of respect, honesty, tolerance, forgiveness, care and compassion are lived out on a daily basis.

Our school does not exist in isolation from the parish or the wider community. Like the Catholic Church, it is knitted not only into our wider society but also has a sense of mission to that wider society. Pope Francis urges Catholic schools 'to provide an education which teaches critical thinking and encourages the development of mature moral values'.

Catholic Education has the capacity to transform the lives of not only the students who attend and the families who are connected to it but to society in general.

At St Bernadette's we strive to develop young students who will graduate with the skills to enable them to contribute positively to society:- finding meaning and value in their lives and reaching their full potential as compassionate, contributing, life-giving members of society who are highly skilled, informed, tolerant, open and just.

*Lord we pray for the children in our
school community
that they may get to know Jesus
through their relationships with others.
May they become aware of how wonderful
they are and what marvellous things they can do*

PS. You are warmly invited to join us next week to celebrate our wonderful school and Catholic Education. We commence the week with a liturgy in the Church on Monday 5th March at 8:45am. This will be a lovely opportunity for you to meet our newly appointed Assistant Priest, Father Shinto. Please let family and friends know that we are launching our Kindergarten Enrolments on Tuesday 6th March at our Open Day and then on Friday please join the children for Open Classrooms between 8:30am - 10:30am as they engage in a 'Transforming Learning Activity'. This will be an opportunity for you to do an activity with your child and to talk to them about your educational experience and how it transformed your life. You are invited to wear or bring along a piece of clothing that represents a transformation in your life. This could be a work uniform, sport team jersey etc. You will have the opportunity to share with the children how this piece of clothing transforms your life.

Leanne Nettleton—Principal

Week 6 Dates

Catholic Schools Week

Mon 5 March
8.45am Catholic
Schools Week
Opening Liturgy—
Church
3pm Motiv8sports

Tues 6 March
8-10am Uniform Shop
**Open Day &
Enrolment Day—9am
Information Session
followed by School
Tours**
Yr 1 Excursion
1.10pm Choir
3-4pm DanceFever Club

Wed 7 March
Student Banking
Waste Free Lunch Day
**7.30pm Parent
Mathematics
Workshop**

Fri 9 March
8.30-10am **Open
Classrooms**
**'Transforming
Learning Activities'**
Literacy Books coming
home

KINDERGARTEN 2019 ENROLMENT / INFORMATION SESSION & SCHOOL TOUR - TUESDAY 6 MARCH AT 9:00AM

Please pass this information onto neighbours and friends who are interested in enrolling their children at St Bernadette's.



R.E. NEWS



During the weeks of Lent, we can focus on the Corporal works of Mercy. These are actions we can perform that extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. · Feed the hungry · Give drink to the thirsty · Clothe the naked · Shelter the homeless · Visit the sick · Visit the imprisoned · Bury the dead. Here are some ideas for how we can do something, in school, parish and community.

- Donate money to the Caritas Project Compassion to help reach our target of \$70 per class to send Syrian refugee children to school in Jordan
- Donate food and clothing to St Vincent de Paul
- Make a meal for a sick/elderly person or a family in need
- Volunteer for a group that looks after the sick or elderly in the Parish.

The school will be celebrating the events of Holy Week with a prayer and reflection in the Parish Hall on **Wednesday 28th March**. Parents are welcome to join their child's grade for this prayerful reflection of the events of Palm Sunday and Holy Week.

Time	Grade
8.30am	Year 6
9.10am	Kindergarten
9.50am	Year 4
11.00am	Year 3
11.40am	Year 2
12.20am	Year 1
1.45am	Year 5

Shane Robinson—REC

Early Years Assessments

Over the next weeks the K-2 teachers will be implementing the Early Years Assessments for Literacy. During those times our regular casual teachers will teach classes while class teachers will be carrying out the individual literacy assessments. The data from these assessments informs the ongoing learning programmes throughout the year. Class teachers implement the assessments at both the beginning and the end of the year. If you would like more information about this please see your child's class teacher, Ms Sweetnam or Mrs Beggs.

Professional Learning

Every week the staff engage in professional learning before and after school hours and this informs the programmes that we implement with the children. From time to time throughout the year, various staff members will participate in professional learning that takes them away from their class. During these times we call on a bank of casual staff who are familiar not only with St Bernadette's but also the delivery of the curriculum.

These teachers work closely with the other teachers on the grade and the grade mentors when necessary. All teachers that work at St Bernadette's are accredited with NSW Education Standards Authority and the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta.

Grade Mentors:-

- Kindy Mrs Beggs
- Year 1 Ms Sweetnam
- Year 2 Mrs Beggs
- Year 3 Mrs Borg
- Year 4 Mrs Watt
- Year 5 Mrs Nettleton
- Year 6 Mrs Robinson

Kiss and Drop Reminders

Thank you for your patience with the car park in the mornings. Things improve when families remember to follow the rules of the car park. This week I would like to remind you of some very important rules that help 'Kiss and Drop' run effectively.



- Kiss and Drop is available if your child is able to undo their seatbelt and get out of the car independently.
- Drive your car right to the end of the drop off zone before stopping
- DO NOT get out of the car to open the door for your child
- Discuss with your child the importance of alighting from your car and **walking straight to the gate**. Some children are stopping to wave goodbye to their parents and this is holding up the flow of cars able to use Kiss and Drop before the 8:30am bell goes
- When you leave Kiss and Drop please do not stop in the lower carpark at the bottom of the stairs to wave goodbye to your child.
- The "Kiss and Drop" area is sign posted. Please DO NOT drop your children off in any other area - especially on the pedestrian crossing.
- **Kiss and Drop closes at 8:30am**. If you arrive after 8:30am you must park your car and walk your child down to the office and sign them in.

The gazetted starting time for school at St Bernadette's is 8:30am.

Any child who arrives after the 8:30am bell is recorded as a late arrival at school. With so much road work happening in and around Castle Hill, if it is possible for some of our families to leave home just 5 mins earlier to arrive at school, it would assist the traffic flow in the carpark between 8:20am and 8:30am.

REMEMBER: Supervision is provided for the children from 8:00am.

Thank you for considering this suggestion.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK INCLUDING Open Day & Enrolment Day for Kindergarten 2019

Prospective parents are invited to attend our Open Day & Enrolment Day on **Tuesday 6th March 9—12 noon**. Please register your attendance on 9407 6600. Information session at 9am followed by tour of the school. Current families are asked to 'register your intention to enrol' by contacting the school office on 9407 6600 before the end of February 2018. Please notify us if you will be attending the Open Day presentation.



Child Protection

As you are aware if you are attending excursions, helping in the classroom etc you need to complete the Online Child Protection Modules. The link to these are on the school website. However some parents recently have had difficulty completing part 2. We have been informed that this is most likely due to an upgrade in security that the Catholic Education Office has recently put in place. If you have 'Flash' enabled on your computer this should rectify the problem.

Catholic Schools Week—Parent Forum

All parents are invited to attend our parent forum on mathematics on Wed 7 March at 7.30pm. An invitation is attached to our e-newsletter this afternoon. Could you please return the reply slip so that resources can be organised for you. Thank you.

Curriculum Corner All schools in NSW teach from the NSW English syllabus. This syllabus assists children to learn how to communicate through speaking, listening, reading, writing, viewing and representing. This week we will focus on understanding the writing component of the English syllabus. Writing is taught in a wide variety of ways to engage the students and to teach the necessary skills required to effectively communicate. Teachers model writing and jointly construct texts with the students. Teachers provide children with regular opportunities to write independently. One of the strategies is called Quick Writes. 'Quick Writes' are used by teachers to encourage students to write from Kinder to Year 6. They take place several times a week for a maximum of 10 to 15 minutes. Students write using a wide variety of stimulus such as a picture, film clip, audio clip, a story or an everyday item. Each student verbally plans and talks before they begin to write and they can write using any type of text. This may include a narrative, a description, an explanation or a persuasive text. Students may also write using a variety of forms such as letters, poems, songs and reports. Through quick writes the teacher is able to monitor

- a child's enthusiasm for writing
- willingness to experiment with different writing styles individual writing goals

When the teachers read a student's Quick Write they provide verbal feedback to the student about each of the above points. Not every Quick Write will have teacher annotations, however, annotations that do occur provide the students with explicit direction for the next steps in their writing development. Please remember that other teacher directed writing strategies occur throughout the week. So next time you are talking with your child about what they are doing at school you may like to ask about their last Quick Write.

On Friday Week 6 the students will be bringing home their Quick Writes book to share with you and to discuss their writing goal. You may even like to write a comment to your child about their writing.

Reminder—Extra-Curricular Lunchtime Clubs:

- Mondays:** Library (K-6)
Homework Club (Yrs 3—6)
- Tuesdays:** Library (K-6)
Choir in Music Room (Yrs 3-6)
Science Club in COHSC Room (Yrs 3—6)
Lego in KG classroom (K-6)
- Wednesday:** Library (K-6)
Art Club in COSHC Room (Yrs 4-6)
Robotics & Coding in Yr 5 (Yrs 2—6)
Gardening Club (Yrs 1-6)
- Thursday:** Library (K-6)
Chess in 2W (Yrs 2-6) starts Week 5

Dancefever

This Term our children have had the opportunity of experiencing the Dancefever program. The children are thoroughly enjoying the program and have learnt wonderful new dance skills as well as social skills. Each year Dancefever hosts an interschool dance Challenge for Yrs 3 to 6 students that involves other schools that have also participated in the program this term. This will be a very exciting event for the children as they have the opportunity of representing their school and perhaps win trophies and prizes.



Parents and families are strongly encouraged to attend this event to support their children and our school. This is also the perfect opportunity for parents to witness the skills their children have acquired – you will be impressed.

Date: Wednesday, 4th April 2018

Time: Doors open 4.30pm for a 5.30pm start – finish 9.00 pm

Venue: Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre, Homebush

Who: Challenge is open to ALL students Yrs 3 to 6.

The atmosphere will be fantastic and it will be a wonderful occasion for our whole school community. More detailed information and permission notes will be going home next week. Every child that attends the Interschool Dance Challenge will be awarded a house colour point that will go towards the St Bernadette's Spirit trophy.

**Congratulations to the following
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

***Social Skill:
Building Positive Relationships at St Bernadette's***

Class	Student of the Week	Student of the Week	Social Skill Award
KB	Josephine Burraston	Christian Khoudair	Oscar Barone
KG	Ewan Osborn	Sophie Vioria	Nicholas Ward
KW	Aidan Jaucian	Christopher de Ponte	Alexa Kouknas
1B	Yen-Shuo Chen	Matilda Cowper	Sienna Smith
1G	Alexis Mortel	Jessica Coghlan	Aleksander Puleo
2B	Ashton Baker	Sophie Pratt	Grace Semaan
2G	Sophia Khamis	Marcus Yacoub	Savannah Jaucian
2W	Elle Dibble	Ashton Allan	Annabelle Wong
3B	Lucas Ranieri	Jai Salter	Melanie Wong
3G	Dylan Gibb	Grace Kalina	Kevin Le
3W	Charlie Thom	Sienna de Juan	Oscar Polley
4B	Isabella Long	Antonio Wadih	Rosemary Carroll
4G	Liam Conlin	Thomas McGinty	Isla Guy
4W	Matthew Barone	Ella Hammersley	Xavier Bounassif
5B	Cassandra Losurdo	Zachary Miller	Lachlan McLaren
5G	Zoe Baroni	Joshua Foo	Dean Guy
5W	Claudia Homsy	Sienna Symin	Nathan Colaco
6B	Emily Kouchoo	Liam Taggart	Elias Semaan
6G	Jarratt Allan	Zachary Hughes	Matilda Polley
6W	Niamh Bradley	Blake Noonan	Grace Zeaiter

Principal's Awards:

Sofia Papandrea 2W
Rosalie McGinty 2B



**Student Council War on Waste initiative – Waste Free Wednesdays
Don't forget – EVERY Wednesday pack a waste free lunch.**

School Fees

We have been advised by CEDP that St Bernadette's school fees will definitely be sent home to all families by post Friday, 2nd March.

Families should now receive their school fee statement no later than early next week and not this week as previously mentioned in last weeks school Newsletter.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused.



New Books

This year we have purchased many new reading books for the students to read. If you could spare some time to cover these books it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the school office if you are able to help. All materials will be supplied. Thanking you in advance.

Coles Sports for Schools

Thank you for all the vouchers that are being sent into the school office. Don't forget to remind neighbours/grandparents that they can save them for us too! Remember the house colour that collects the most Sports for Schools vouchers will win 50 points to go toward the St Bernadette's Spirit trophy.



10th Anniversary Arnott's Gala Ball—

Camp Quality—recount from one of our parents

There was barely a dry eye in the room when two mums of sons with cancer took to the stage at the Camp Quality 10th Anniversary Arnott's Foundation Gala Ball last Friday night at the International Convention Centre, Darling Harbour. Brooke Macarthur and Melissa Zerafa (mum of Ethan in Yr 6) spoke publicly for the first time on the night about the heartbreak of finding out their sons had cancer and how their friendship helped them through the hardest days in hospital. "Mel and I instantly shared the mutual feeling of helplessness watching our sons battle their cancers, our feelings of despair at not being with our other children, and those haunting fears for our son's futures." "Prior to our sons being diagnosed we had both never really given much thought to how Camp Quality helped families impacted by cancer ... until we became those families." "The unwavering support, the opportunities to reconnect and the countless smiles on our kids' faces at Camp Quality programs will stay with us for a lifetime." Over 900 guests helped raise over \$500,000 at the event! Log onto Camp Quality's Facebook page for further details.

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/CampQualityAU/videos/1622345674523873/>

St Bernadette's Netball Club—Want to Play Netball in 2018? There are still some spots in some teams. We are looking for players to join:

- ◆ 3 boys or girls born in 2010
- ◆ 2 boys or girls born in 2008
- ◆ 2 boys or girls born in 2006

If your child would like to play netball, or if you have friends or family who would like to play (players can be from outside the school) contact club registrar, Pauline Andrew at stbncregistrar@hotmail.com or by text on 0403 762 796.

Gilroy Catholic College—Open Evening for Enrolments—Year 7 2019

Gilroy Catholic College is holding it's annual Open Evening for Enrolments on Wednesday 21st February 2018. There will be tours of the College at 5 and 7pm and our Principal Cheryl Merryweather will give a talk in the school hall at 6.15pm. To make a tour booking, please phone 8853 8200 with your preferred tour time. Application packages will be available on the night. Applications close on Thursday 8 March 2018.

Gilroy Catholic College's production of **Beauty and the Beast** will be held on Wed 9 May, Thursday 10 May, Friday 11 May and Saturday 12 May. Tickets available from www.trybooking.com/345002. Join us for a fabulous night!

OLMC Parramatta Open Day

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Day on Sunday March 11.

Tour the College and discover how a Mercy Education empowers girls to expand beyond what they know they can be.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 9683 3300 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

Jazz at the Pines—Join us for an afternoon of Jazz 12.30—4pm Roughley House at The Pines, 656a Old Northern Road, Dural.
Sunday 18th March—Sunday 15th April— Sunday 20th May. All payments are made at the gate \$20 Adults and \$15 Concessions. Further info: 9651 4411 or info@jazzatthepines.org.au

Term 1 2018

Mon 29 January—Fri 13 April

Term 2 2018

Mon 30th April—Staff Development Day
Tuesday 1 May (students return) to Fri 6 July

Term 3 2018

Mon 23 July to Fri 28 September

Term 4

Mon 15 October to Wed 19 December (for students)