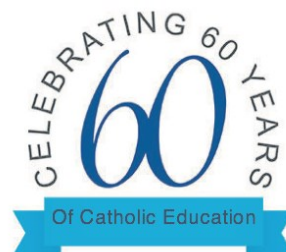




St Bernadette's School



Friday 2 February 2018

No. 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2018 school year. It has been delightful to greet the children – those returning and especially the new children to our school in Years One to Six and our youngest students, our very special 2018 Kindergarten group. I know that all our new families will find St Bernadette's a warm and inviting school community.

The children have returned refreshed and energetic – keen to be with their friends and teachers for 2018. Throughout the administration of the MAI's the teachers witnessed the children's enthusiasm for learning and a keenness to introduce themselves and get to know them. Thank you to every parent for making these opportunities run so smoothly. Such partnership is indicative of how St Bernadette's teachers and parents work together to bring about excellent outcomes for our students and I know that this foundation will mean that 2018 will be a year of happiness and success for all of our students.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new AP, Mrs Melissa Beggs and our new staff Miss Georgia Fitzalan, Mrs Sally Coppini, Miss Stephanie Morelli, Miss Lauren Bleakley, Miss Danielle Smith, Miss Sara Blanch and Mrs Jackie Warner.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the amazing St Bernadette's staff for their commitment to their vocation of working in Catholic education. Many hours of holiday time have been dedicated to preparing for the start of the school year.

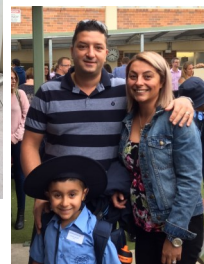
Congratulations to our Kindergarten children and their parents for the fabulous start that they have had to the year!

Opening School Mass

All our students and families are invited by Father Fernando to attend the 9:00am Parish Mass this **Sunday 4th February**, in which we will celebrate the 2018 School Opening and ask for God's blessing on our students families and staff for the School Year.

Children are asked to wear Summer School Uniform and to sit with their parents in the Church.

Welcome to our new Kindy families:



R.E. NEWS



Welcome back to our new school year. We are also in a new liturgical year, which marks the transition of the Lectionary cycle for the readings from Year A to Year B to Year C. We have a 3 year cycle built around the 3 synoptic gospels – Matthew, Mark and Luke. We are currently in Year B with the readings of Mark. Students will also be focusing on the readings of Mark in their Religious Education Units. Mark paints a portrait of Jesus that is vivid and dynamic; focussing most of his attention on Jesus' mighty works. He portrays Jesus as a mighty healer and identifying Jesus as the Son of God.

Mrs Shane Robinson—REC

Week 2 Dates

Sun 4 February

9am Opening School Mass—Church—All students and families

Mon 5 February

STUDENT BANKING—NEW DAY 2018

8.30am Assembly

Tue 6 February

8-10am Uniform Shop
1.10pm Choir Audition (Yrs 3 to 6)

Wed 7 February

Waste Free Lunch Day

Fri 9th February

7.45am Band Resumes
5.30pm P&F welcome Barbecue for Kindergarten and all new families to the school.

Coming Dates:

Tue 13 & Wed 14 Feb

Yr 5 Excursion—Vision Valley

Fri 16 February

1.45pm Yr 6 School and Student Leadership & SRC badge presentation assembly (Church—All parents welcome)

Wed 28 March

P&F Meeting (further details to follow)

Whole School Assembly Friday 16th

February in the Church 1:50pm. Our School Leadership installation Liturgy and Assembly will be held in Week 3. Parents are invited to attend and celebrate the recognition of our 2018 Student School Leadership Members - School Captains, Vice Captains, School Leaders, House Colour Captains and Year 6 Student Leaders. We will also be installing our Years 2 to 6 first semester Student Council Representatives. If your child has been nominated as the class SRC representative you are warmly invited to attend this assembly as well. Class SRC will be elected in Week 2.

Grade Mentors

At St Bernadette's each of the leadership team members act as a communication point for parents when necessary. Of course the first point of communication about your child is always with the class teacher. Please find below the Grade Mentors for 2018. They can be contacted through the school office.

Kindergarten	- Mrs Melissa Beggs (Asst Principal)
Year One	- Ms Lyn Sweetnam
Year Two	- Mrs Melissa Beggs
Year Three	- Mrs Rochelle Borg
Year Four	- Mrs Kathy Watt
Year Five	- Mrs Leanne Nettleton (Principal)
Year Six	- Mrs Shane Robinson

Next Friday 9 Feb is School Census Day

If you know that your child will be absent on Friday 9th February, please email the school explaining their absence prior to the day. Likewise, if your child is unexpectedly absent on the day, please email the school by 10:00am on Friday 9th February simply advising your child's name, class, the reason for their absence and when they will return. Please note: Auditors have advised that written advice from parents is mandatory. This is a requirement that applies to every day of the school year, however, Census data is directly related to Government funding for our schools and the requirements outlined above are set by the Department of Education. Thank you for your co-operation.

Parent Surveys and Grade Overviews

From next week grade overviews and Parent surveys will be emailed to you and parents are invited to contact class teachers to discuss any information that they would like the teacher to know prior to a more formal meeting later this term.

Waste Free Lunch Day—Wednesday's

This program was started last year from an initiative through our Student Representative Council (SRC). The SRC wants to raise our students social awareness and responsibility for being a sustainable community. Therefore the SRC has decided to introduce and promote Waste Free Wednesday Lunch and Recess every week. Parents are asked to support this great initiative every Wednesday by sending your child's recess and lunch in a reusable container without food wrappings.

Waste Free Wednesdays
EVERY Wednesday pack a waste free lunch.

Student Attendance

Regular attendance at school is critical to ensuring that every student has the kind of opportunities in life that he or she deserves.

When students are not at school, they are missing out on so much, as can be seen in the graphic. Missing just 2 days a month is the equivalent of missing 4 weeks of school every year – **almost 10% of their learning.**

We do understand that children may sometimes need to be absent from school through sickness or misadventure. We understand the work demands of parents and their ability to take leave does not always coincide with school holiday periods.

We ask that leave for extended periods – such as overseas holidays – is kept to a minimum - and wherever possible within the usual school holiday periods.

When a student is not sick and requires leave, the Principal – Mrs Nettleton - needs to be notified of this in writing prior to that leave being taken. If the leave is not approved, you will be informed in writing by the school office.

Where a leave application is for **5 days** or more, parents are **required** to complete and submit the Application for Extended Leave form for approval. The form can be found on the school's website in Community/Notes & Forms/Administration Forms. All children accessing extended leave for travel need to be issued with a certificate of extended leave approved by the principal.

Award System at St Bernadette's

The children at St Bernadette's are recognised for their behaviour, work habits and school performance in many ways within the classroom, at various assemblies and through various award opportunities.

- Each Monday we recognise our Birthday children for that week
- In weeks 3, 5, 7 and 10 (in Term 1) children from each class will be recognised in the following categories:
 - Student of the Week
 - Social Skill
 - Merit certificates
- Behaviour leading to a Principal's Award—children then have a morning tea with Mrs Nettleton at the end of the term. A letter advises students of the date and time.
- At the end of each term two students from the entire student body are awarded the School Values Award.

Children will be acknowledged in newsletters to follow each of these awards so that our community can celebrate with the children.



Grade Teachers for 2018

Kindergarten

Miss Georgia Fitzalan, Mrs Corena Laso and Mrs Leanne Napoli

Year 1

Mrs Kathy Watt & Mrs Maryanne Lean-Fore

Year 2

Mrs Bianca Bojanowski/Mrs Stephanie Hottes, Miss Kristina Jurcevic and Mrs Julie Ingegneri

Year 3

Mrs Melinda Bullen, Mrs Sally Coppini, Mrs Karyn Lee/ Mrs Amy Macey

Year 4

Miss Stephanie Morelli, Mrs Rhiarna Thomas and Mrs Shane Robinson

Year 5

Mrs Karen Orsini, Mrs Nicole Metwally and Mr Stephen Bamford

Year 6

Mrs Amanda Thorpe/Mrs Katie Mulligan, Miss Lauren Bleakley and Mrs Rochelle Borg.

Principal	Mrs Leanne Nettleton
Asst Principal	Mrs Melissa Beggs
REC:	Mrs Shane Robinson
Teacher Relses & Music/Drama	Mrs Elizabeth Evans / Mrs Alexandra Buscall
Sport:	Mrs Ilana Blazeovic (Term 1)
Library:	Mrs Crammond / Mrs Lee
Learning Support	Miss Danielle Smith
Reading Recovery & EMU Maths	Miss Sweetnam / Mrs Beggs
Choir	Mrs Evans / Mrs Blazeovic
Admin	Mrs Vicki Cassidy Mrs Dawn Crake Mrs Frances Murphy
Teachers Aides	Mrs Aylen / Mrs Calabria / Mrs Warner
Maintenance	Mr Colin Balfour
IT	Miss Sara Blanch

CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S WEEK INCLUDING Open Day & Enrolment Day — for Kindergarten 2019

Prospective parents are invited to attend our Open Day & Enrolment Day for Kindergarten 2019 on **Tuesday 6 March 2018 9.00am—12.00 noon.**

A presentation by Mrs Nettleton will be followed by a tour of our Kindergarten classrooms. Enrolment packs will be available on the day or from our website.

Please register your interest by either contacting Mrs Dawn Crake in the school office on 02 9407 6600 or via email: bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au. Enrolment forms are being accepted now and are available to download from our website.

2018 School Fees

Term 1 School Fee accounts will be sent home from the Catholic Education Office Wednesday, 21st March, 2018. Flexible Payment Plans (FPP) will again be offered in all Schools in the Parramatta Diocesan - 2018. The FPP is an alternative to our current payment terms of **30 days** and offers families choice to pay their annual fees weekly, fortnightly or monthly over either a six month period from **March to August (Standard Plan)** or nine month period **March to November (Extended Plan)**.

Fees can be made by cash, cheque, credit card, EFTPOS, BPAY or POSTBILLPAY. If you take advantage of the BPAY facility to pay your school fees, you will need your biller code and reference code which are located on the bottom right hand side of your school fee account. Please allow 2 days for all BPay and POSTBILLPAY payments to reach our account.

Should you wish to make arrangements for the payment of your 2018 school fees please contact Mrs Vicki Cassidy on 9407 6600 or email vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au.

Morning Supervision

Before school supervision starts at 8am
School commences **PROMPTLY** at 8.30am.



In the afternoons, all the children are supervised on to buses, at Tuckshop, across roads, to after school care or while waiting for the Car Pick Up Service.

School finishes at **2.45pm** - your collection of children at this time is very much appreciated.

Parking in and around the school

Please adhere to the school and parish guidelines for parking within the school and parish car park

- Entry to the car park **ONLY** from Brisbane Road
- Drive with care and caution in the car park
- **DO NOT** park in the Kiss 'n Drop area
- **NEVER** double park at anytime in the school grounds
- **DO NOT** drive through the car park at the bottom of the driveway closest to Brisbane Road
- Comply with the requests of volunteer traffic monitors and teacher supervisors as they monitor the smooth running of the '**Kiss 'n Drop**' and '**Car Pick Up**' services
- Obey parking signage
- Be mindful and vigilant at each pedestrian crossing in the car park

When we all work together we will be able to look after the safety of our precious children.

Choir—If you are in **Years 3 to 6** and are interested in joining our school choir for 2018, auditions will be held next week—Tuesday 6 February at lunchtime 1.10pm in the Music Room. Please contact Mrs Evans or Mrs Blazeovic if you have any questions or just come along to the auditions next week.

Library—General Information

The library is an educational centre for both students and staff. It is a valuable resource where children can study as a class, group or individuals.

The Library is open Monday to Thursday from 8.30 to 2.45pm. The library is supervised at lunchtime 1.20 to 1.40pm and the children may visit Monday to Wednesday. The Library is closed at recess.

Borrowing

Borrowing limits for children vary according to the child's grade.

Kindergarten -	1 book at a time
Years 1 & 2 -	2 books at a time
Year 3 & 4 -	3 books at a time
Year 5 & 6 -	4 books at a time

Students visit the library once a week for Library lessons and borrowing but may borrow more often if they are avid readers.

They must however return books before new ones can be loaned.

Students are encouraged to choose a suitable book themselves as this develops their tastes and skills. However this does not always occur. Please contact me if you are concerned.

Borrowing is encouraged over the school holidays (excluding Christmas) for recreational reading.

A Library bag is required by the children when borrowing.

All books should be returned after 2 weeks.

Borrowing will begin in Week 3.

Late Books

After the due date (i.e. 2 weeks after the book was borrowed) the book is overdue. Books may be renewed if students need more time to finish reading the book. Overdue notices are issued to students once per term. Long term overdue notices are issued as a message to parents.

Lost or Damaged Books

If you think a book has been lost or damaged, please contact the library.

We will:

- check the shelves to ensure that the item has not been returned. (It may not have been scanned or incorrectly scanned.)
- ask to check with your child's classroom teacher to make sure it is not in with the classroom books or reading books.
- request payment to replace the book.

St Bernadette's Summer Reading Challenge

Not only is there the Parramatta Diocese Reading competition which closes on Monday but St Bernadette's Summer Reading Challenge is on too. It's not too late to enter. Simply print out the attached email sent with the newsletter and your child could be in the running for some great prizes!



Sport Uniform Days—Term 1

These are the days this term that your child/ren should wear their sports uniform:

Kindy	Tue & Thurs
Yr 1	Tue & Fri
Yr 2	Tue & Wed
Yr 3	Tue & Thurs
Yr 4	Tue & Thurs
Yr 5	Tue & Fri
Yr 6	Tue & Wed



Anaphylaxis

At St Bernadette's this year there are a number of children who experience anaphylaxis – in particular a severe allergic reaction when they are exposed to peanuts and nut related products. If those children are exposed to these foods a severe allergic reaction can occur within 20 minutes of exposure and can rapidly become life threatening. Accidental exposure to these foods can happen at eating times and in the case of one of our students, the allergic reaction can be triggered when another person has touched or eaten these foods and then that person touches them.

As a community we can assist these children by making our school environment safe. We ask families to:

- NOT use peanut, nut and chocolate spreads when making and sending sandwiches to school.
- NEVER send nuts to school for your own child to eat
- remind children NOT to share their food with other children at school
- explain to your children the seriousness of food allergies for those children who are affected by them and that we can help to keep these children safe by the choices we make.



Should you wish to have more information about anaphylaxis this can be found at the Anaphylaxis Australia website www.allergyfacts.org.au

Thank you for your assistance with all that you do to help us provide a safe environment for all the children at St Bernadette's Primary School.

Birthday Cakes

If parents do need to send in a birthday cake for their child's birthday, teachers would prefer cup cakes. This makes distribution in the classroom so much easier without the safety issues of bringing a knife into the class to cut the cake. Thank you.



Child Protection

A reminder for parents who are required to **'UPDATE'** their child protection and for **'NEW'** parents to the school.



It is a Diocesan requirement that parents who volunteer at school must complete the **two part** Child Protection Module ONLINE. This training is available online at: <http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers> and **MUST** be completed every two years.

All parents must have completed the above prior to helping in the classroom, on excursions, sport days, uniform shop or any help around the school.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018

Term 1 2018

Mon 29 January—Fri 13 April

Term 2 2018

Staff Development Day—Mon 30 April
Tues 1 May 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

P&F NEWS:

Uniform Shop—The Uniform Shop opens on Tuesday mornings between 8 and 10am. Order forms are available from our website (Community/Notes and Forms/Whole School/Summer Uniform 2017/18). Order forms can be completed and forwarded to: uniformshop.stbpnf@gmail.com anytime before Tuesday morning to be sent home with your child Tuesday afternoon. If you would like to help out in the Uniform Shop please contact: uniformshop.stbpnf@gmail.com. (NB: please note you must have completed the Child Protection Module).

P&F Welcome BBQ—Friday 9 February 5.30pm onwards.

We invite all Kindergarten and new families to the school in 2018 to join us for our welcome bbq. Year 1 families will host the event so we hope you will all be able to join us for this special celebration. Also there on the night will be St Bernadette's Football Club, Netball Club and our school band performing at 5.30pm



P&F News continued

Grade Contact Lists—An email will be sent to all parents this afternoon with details on how to add your contact details to the 'Grade Contact List'. The closing date for this is February 16th.

P&F Meeting

Our first meeting for the year will be on Wednesday 28th March. All parents are invited to attend our meeting. Further details will follow however, please note this date in your diary.

St Bernadette's Playgroup

St Bernadette's Playgroup extends a warm welcome to families with children up to 5 years to attend playgroup this year.



Playgroup runs on Monday and Thursday mornings during school terms. Term 1 commences Monday 5th February. For further information please check the parish website or contact Carolyn Lincoln 0411 547 285.

Play Netball in 2018—Registrations Open Until 16 February

- St Bernadette's Netball Club is taking online registrations now. You can find out how to register on our website: <http://sbnc.nsw.netball.com.au/>, or come to an information afternoon on 9 or 10 February in the Marian Centre from 2:00pm until 4:00pm. Kindergarten and Year 1 boys and girls can learn to play netball in our NetSetGo program at the school netball court, commencing at 3:00pm on 23 February. The cost is \$65. Email the registrar, Pauline Andrew at stbncregistrar@hotmail.com, or call her on 0403 762 796 if you'd like to join us or you'd like to know more.

St Bernadette's Football Club (SBFC) -

Registrations are now open for the 2018 Winter Football Season. We have teams from Kindy to Year 6. Season starts on Saturday 7th April. Training starts on Thursday 5th April at Eric Mobbs Reserve, with a training program being run this year by the Wanderers. Join SBFC and play football with your mates. Go to www.sbfc.org.au for details on how to register.



Motiv8sports—A flyer was sent home yesterday for students to join the Motiv8sports program commencing Monday 12th February straight after school. Please register online if you wish your child to attend—bookings are filling fast!