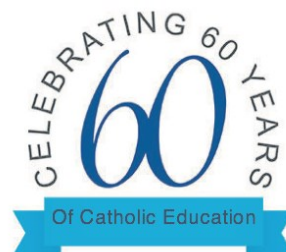




St Bernadette's School



Friday 9th February 2018

No. 2

Dear Parents,

Congratulations again to our Kindergarten children on a wonderful second week at school. Over the next weeks we look forward to seeing them grow in confidence as they become more acquainted with their school, teachers and friends.

At the beginning of a school year it is a great opportunity to remind ourselves that many of the difficult times that we as parents experience with raising our children, are quite normal, natural and even appropriate to differing age levels. We need always to keep things in perspective, love our children at each stage of their lives and be open-minded to what might lie ahead. It could be said that,

"A difficulty can be likened to a pebble. Hold it too close to your eye and it fills the whole world and puts everything out of focus. Hold it at a proper distance and it can be properly examined. Throw it at your feet and it can be seen in its true setting, just one more bump in the pathway of life."

When we examine a difficulty in its proper perspective, we might firstly ask if it is really a problem at all? Most of our children's difficulties, once they have a calm mind applied to them, tend to offer their own solutions and turn out to be less severe than they first seemed to be. We need to take care that we have taken time to gather all the facts concerning any difficulty before we move into developing firm opinions.

Lord, we ask You to strengthen us in our role as parents.

Help us to be positive, encouraging and appreciative of all the persons in our family.

Guide us to see things as they truly are. May our attitude and outlook be inspired by You to be faith-filled, hope-filled and courageous.
Amen.

R.E. NEWS



Wednesday, 14th February is Ash Wednesday and this marks the beginning of Lent.

The season of Lent goes for forty days and is a time for Catholics to prepare for Easter. Lent is usually a time of **fasting, almsgiving and repentance as well as a time for reflecting on Christ's suffering and sacrifices for us.**



As part of St Bernadette's social justice initiative, we support Caritas Australia's *Project Compassion*. During Lent, we are trying to reach a target of \$70 per class for Project Compassion. For every \$70 that we collect we can support buying educational materials for Syrian students to assist them to attend school in Jordan. Many of these students have struggled to overcome the trauma of growing up in a conflict zone and have missed out on school. Caritas helps

provide schools for these disadvantaged students. Families are encouraged to help discuss with their children the importance of

almsgiving during Lent to Project Compassion.

On Ash Wednesday, Years K to 6 will attend the 9:15am and the 12 noon Parish Mass. They will receive the ashes on their forehead and hear these words 'turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel'.

Mrs Shane Robinson—REC

Week 3 Dates

Mon 12 February

8.30am Assembly
2.45pm MOTIV8
SPORTS starts

Tue 13 February

Shrove Tuesday—
Pancake Day & Gold
Coin donation
Yr 5 Camp
8-10am Uniform Shop
1.10pm Choir

Wed 14 February

Ash Wednesday
Lent Begins
Yr 5 Camp
Waste Free Lunch Day
STUDENT BANKING—
DAY 2018—IS NOW
WEDNESDAY !

Thurs 15 February

Fri 16 February

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

Coming Dates:

Wed 28 February

P & F Meting
(please note correct
date)

P & F WELCOME BBQ—TONIGHT 5:30PM ONWARDS

Invitation extended to all Kindergarten & new families to the school in 2018.

Please join us as we welcome you to our wonderful school community.

Just bring yourselves and a picnic blanket or chair.

Looking forward to catching up again with all of our new families.



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

Parent/Student Teacher Learning Interviews

This year the teachers will be holding interviews in Week 8. These interviews will focus on your child's learning goals. They will be an opportunity for you to hear from the teachers about your child's MAI, Reading and Writing Assessments as well as your child's goals.



Shrove Tuesday—Pancake Day

On Tuesday the children will receive a pancake provided by our wonderful P & F Association. Donations of a gold coin towards our 'Caritas' fundraising efforts for this year would be appreciated.

Attendance

Every Learner Every Day

Attendance rate to date is **91%**

Our community believes that **every day counts for every child**. Our target is for at least 90% attendance and this week we have successfully reached this goal.

A reminder that ideally all children should be at school before the bell rings (8:27am) with enough time to have a drink, go to the toilet and be ready to line up with their class to begin the school day together.

Thank you for your assistance and congratulations to those children who have begun the year with 100% attendance!

A warm welcome is extended to our new families starting at St Bernadette's in 2018 with children in Years 1 to 6:

Jingzhi (Murphy) Sun—Yr 1
Nathan & Samara Colaco—K & Yr 5
Georgia, Nathan & Jacob Elias—K, 2 & 4
Poppy & Elle Dibble—Yr 2 & 3
Mila & Brodie Thompson—K & Yr 5
Nicholas Power—Yr 5
Kiara Claridge—Yr 6
Tahlia & Morgan Smith—Yr 6 & 4
Leo & Salote Ah Siu—Yr 2 & 3



Student Banking

Please be advised that we have changed back to **Wednesdays** for Student Banking.



Car Park

A reminder that parents are asked to drive slowly through the car park at all times. Please do not park in the Kiss n Drop area in a morning. The Kiss n Drop operates for children who are able to exit the car and carry their school bag on their own. If you need to help a child, please park your car and assist them into school. Also, **NO** right turn at the bottom of the driveway onto Brisbane Road between .

Social Skills Weeks 1,2 & 3

Being a Great Friend at St. Bernadette's (Social Awareness)

Making friends- Everyone needs a friend.

Having friends at school is important. Positive friendships allow children to have fun as well as cope during difficult times of stress and change.

The core friendship skills for children are:

Cooperation-

- *Learning how to share, take turns and work together towards a common goal.*

Communication-

- *Using words to explain what you want and listen to others respectfully.*

Understanding and managing feelings-

- *Being able to express feelings in ways that help others understand you.*
- *Recognising and responding to others' feelings.*

Accepting and including others-

- *Recognising others' needs for respect and friendship.*

We all have an important role to play in helping children to develop their friendship skills. By setting an example of how to manage relationships, teaching them helpful social skills and talking through friendship issues with them, adults are able to guide children as they refine their friendship skills.

We as a school community look forward to many positive friendships being developed to ensure that 2018 is a supportive and caring environment for us all at St. Bernadette's.

Mrs Kathy Watt

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.



Current families are asked to 'register your intention to enrol' by contacting the school office on 9407 6600 before end of February 2018. Please notify us if you will be attending the Open Day presentation.



Here are some tips for parents to keep your child safe online

BE SAFE

- Be aware of how your child uses the internet and explore it with them
- **Set rules and monitor** to make sure your child knows what information they can share or post online and which websites they can visit
- Teach your child to **tell a trusted adult** if they feel uncomfortable about something they have found on the internet or received in an email
- Discuss with your child the importance of keeping **personal information private**. This sort of information can be used to identify or locate where they live, go to school or activities in which they are involved

BE RESPECTFUL

- Talk to your children about **cyberbullying**. Online communication should be responsible and respectful
- Children and adolescents who are being cyberbullied sometimes change their behaviour. If you are concerned they might be a victim of cyberbullying, talk to them and tell them you are concerned. Arrange a talk to a teacher or school counsellor
- Advise your child **not to respond** to any negative messages and to **keep evidence**. Tell them to **report** any negative messages they receive to you or another trusted person/adult
- Children and their parents can contact social media companies and ask for defamatory material to be taken down. If the material is not gone within 48 hours, a complaint can be lodged with the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner at **www.esafety.gov.au**

BE RESPONSIBLE

- Consider using inbuilt **filters** and controls on your digital devices and home network to manage your children's online access. Keep your **virus protection** up to date
- Talk with your child about being careful when downloading files or clicking on links. Some files or links may be harmful viruses or trying to obtain personal information
- **Certain online activities** (downloading illegal videos or music, plagiarism, sexting, identity theft, 'hacking' networks) are illegal and can result in criminal charges

For more information visit: www.esafety.gov.au
<http://cnadigitalcitizenship.weebly.com/for-parents.html>

Curriculum Corner

Our school follows the NSW Syllabus in all Key Learning Areas. All NSW syllabus documents are

- mandatory for all schools in NSW including St Bernadette's
- organised into Stages -
 Early Stage One - Kindergarten
 Stage One - Years 1 & 2
 Stage 2 - Years 3 & 4 and
 Stage 3 - Years 5 & 6
- organised into concepts and skills for children K-6

You are able to find the NSW syllabus online by clicking on this link syllabus.nesa.nsw.edu.au

Please keep an eye on the curriculum corner each week for updates and ideas to assist you with your child's learning.

Club Dancefever

On Tuesday afternoons from Week 4 Club Dancefever will be back with a 6 week after-school hip-hop program for boys/girls in Years 3 to 6. The program is run between 3 and 4pm. The cost is \$60.



A note will be emailed to families with students in Years 3 to 6 this afternoon with all details and the reply slip/payment form.

Ex Student News

At St Bernadette's we are always proud to hear about the achievements and endeavours of our past students. This week we would like to showcase the efforts of Kristy Hourigan

(student at St Bernadette's 2007 - 2013)

Kristy's Krazy Kosci Klimb 2018

Kristy Hourigan is taking on the challenge of a lifetime on February 17. Kristy and her team will walk to the top of Mt Kosciuszko in an effort to raise money for people living with cerebral palsy. Kristy loves her sport and all monies raised will go towards sporting programs and making gyms accessible for people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. If you are able to support TEAM KRISTY please click on the link below.
<http://www.krazykosciklimb.com.au/my-fundraising/1167/kirstys-krazy-kosci-klimb>



Please follow Kristy's journey on her Facebook page – Kristy's Krazy Kosci Klimb.
<https://www.facebook.com/kristyskrazykosciklimb/>

All at St Bernadette's are very proud of you Kristy!

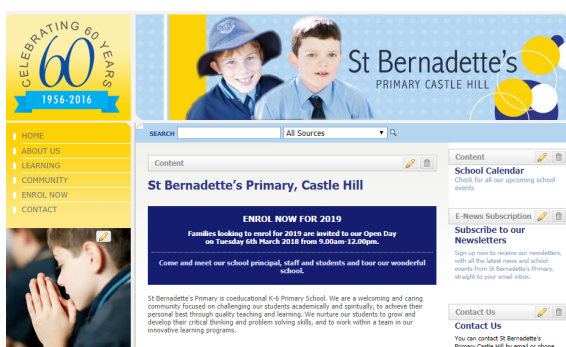
Have you visited our website?

<http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au>
(Copy link and keep in your favourites!!)

Our website is full of useful information which parents are asked to check on a regular basis. The family calendar, which has all the dates relevant to school/masses and sport etc are here for you to view. Information regarding events / parent courses and diocesan news are also found here.

placed on our website under Community/Notes & Forms/ then click on your grade, are the notes sent home regarding excursions and grade newsletters.

Also under Current Families/Notes & Forms/Whole School is information relevant to the whole school ie. Uniform Shop Order Forms/Tuckshop Menu/school notes/Requisites List etc. Don't forget to check it out!



Coles Sports for School

Thank you to everyone who is already sending in their tokens. Yes—we are collecting these again so please let neighbours/grandparents know and send them into our office.



P & F News:

Grade Contact Lists—A reminder that parents have until Fri 16th Feb to add their details to the grade contact lists. The link is below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/2IQJ29GguCKAb4TI3>

A reminder that NO changes can be made to the lists once published so please ensure you enter the correct details. Thank you!

P & F Meeting—First meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th February. All parents are invited to attend. Further details to follow.

Try Hockey

Hockey is a team sport played by girls and boys. It is great for fitness and hand-eye coordination. The winter season runs from April to August and we have teams from under 7s (aged 5+) to under 17. Try hockey program is run in two one-hour sessions. When: Monday 5 and 12 March 5.30—6.30pm Where: Pennant Hills Park Hockey Field, Britannia Street, Pennant Hills. Fee: \$20 Further information and rego: www.ndhockey.com.au/shop. Enquiries: Sarah 0403 202 383

Play Rugby League with the Brumbies

The Baulkham hills Brumbies Junior League Rugby Club includes students from St Michael's, Our Lady of Lourdes, St Bernadette's and St Angela's from U6's to U 11's. Registration fees for the 2018 season are \$130 for one child and \$190 for a family. Great value and includes shorts, socks, a drink bottle and more! Registration fees for U6's were reduced last year and we have decided to reduce them again in 2018! So registrations for all under 6 players will be \$30! Registration for new player for 2018 is Sun 25th Feb at Castlewood Oval, Castle Hill 10—12 noon. Further information: brumbies.jrlfc@gmail.com Contact: John Polley 0414 275 824 President or Jenny Mejalli 0410 224 000 Registrar.

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)

Our congratulations to the Ward family on the birth of a baby girl, Eliza Mary sister to Charlotte in 2W & Nicholas in KG). Our best wishes to the family.



R.I.P. †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to the Kassis family (Georgina in 4 Blue), following the recent passing of her grandmother. May she rest in peace.

