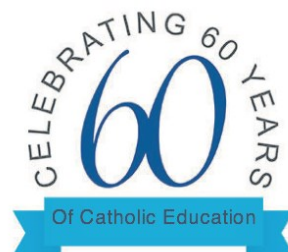




St Bernadette's School



Friday 9 March 2018

No. 6

Dear Parents,

As we approach the half way mark in Lent it is a good opportunity for us to reflect upon our understanding of repentance.

Repentance doesn't mean going through life with your head down, feeling remorseful for being so bad. It means start doing something good. Start practicing what you believe in.

"**Repent**" means start doing the things that you know you should do. If you are alienated from somebody, be reconciled. If you are self-righteous in relation to others, humble yourself. If you have been uncaring toward the poor, now is the time to get some moral imagination and put yourself in the plight of another human being. If you have been callous about prospects for peace in the world, now is the time for you to start praying and begin working for those things in your own neighbourhood that make for peace. If you have put your trust in the accumulation of things so that you are slave to a whole host of masters, now is the time for you to unload some of the stuff and to put your trust in God. And if you assumed to this point that you are going to be judged on your ability to avoid evil in this life, this is the time for you to hear that you are going to be judged on your courage to do the good.

Repentance is not some negative, life-denying gesture. In fact, repentance doesn't mean turning to a past way of thinking or doing at all. Repentance means turning to a new way. Repentance does not mean to change from what we are to what we were. It means to change from what we are to what we are going to be."

R.E. NEWS



Through prayer we are being called into a dialogue with God. Lent is a time to focus on prayer, so we can build that relationship with God. A first step is that we need to make a commitment for a time and place to pray.

Dear Lord,

Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the-best-version-of-myself.

As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person,

let me hear your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart.

Give me rest in you.

Help me to accept others, showing them your great

love instead of casting judgment.

Stay with me and remind me that when I need comfort,

solitude, wisdom, or guidance, I can always turn to you.

Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting

and almsgiving, and come closer to you through prayer this Lent.

*In your name I pray,
Amen.*

Leanne Nettleton—Principal

But how to pray? How to find God's voice inside our noisy minds and busy schedules? How to quiet down and listen?

'Lectio divina' is an ancient form of prayer that's accessible to all. The church provides daily Scripture readings that can be the gateway to prayer. Choose a daily reading and go through it slowly. Pause and recall a word or phrase that particularly speaks to you. Spend time reflecting on what moves you. Then slowly read the entire text again to put the phrase into context and explore deeper meaning. You could read Luke 10:1-9 and here are some reflection questions for you to reflect on the Scripture:

What harvest is Jesus talking about?

How do we know when people are peace-loving?

What makes me think the kingdom of God is coming again?

Shane Robinson—REC

Week 7 Dates

Mon 12 March

8.30am Assembly
2.45pm Motiv8sports

Tue 13 March

8-10am Uniform Shop
Yr 2 Exc to Rouse Hill Farm
1.10pm Choir
3-4pm Club Dancefever

Wed 14 March

Student Banking Day
Waste Free Lunch Day

Fri 16 March

1.40pm Whole School Assembly

Coming Dates:

Mon 19 March

8.45am Harmony Day Liturgy—Church

Wed 21 March

Harmony Day
Teacher/Parent/Student Learning Conversations
- Interviews until 7:50pm

Mon 19-Thu 22 March

Mon 26 March

Holy Week

Thurs 29 March

Cross Country

Friday 13 April

St Bernadette's Day



Transforming Learning Day

Gold coin donation = \$943



Weeks 6 & 7 Displaying our school values at St Bernadette's (Self Awareness)

Our school motto is 'Strength through Gentleness' and it is this motto that is the basis of the relationships that we endeavour to build with those in our school. We define 'strength' as the state of being strong; muscular power, mental power, moral power and power by reason of influence.

Gentleness' is defined as the value and quality of ones character.

Our school motto underpins our school values of respect, honesty, tolerance, forgiveness, care and compassion and we proudly recite these at our assembly each week.

The development of our friendships and enriching our caring school environment allows us to display our school motto and the school values of being strong in our beliefs and gentle in our ways as we interact with each other at school and at home.

Mrs Kathy Watt

Attendance

Every Learner Every Day

Attendance rate to date is 92.7%

Our community believes that every day counts for every child. Our attendance levels are recorded below. Our target is for at least 90% attendance each week. Congratulations Year 2 who are moving closer to 100% for the week.

While we know that good attendance is vital for the education of our children, at some time they will be sick and need to be absent from school.

Upon returning to school a note to the teacher to explain the absence is required. On occasions this can be forgotten and reminder letters are sent home to parents. At the moment, we have a number of outstanding explanations and we would like to reduce this to zero! Year 1 are leading the way with just one absence note to be returned. Thank you, parents.

K - 93.9%	4 - 90.8%
1 - 85.7%	5 - 93.9%
3 - 92.3%	6 - 93.1%

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

Student/Parent/Teacher Learning Conversations

Our student learning conversations with parents and their class teachers will be held in Week 8. Once again we will be using the online booking system that you used for the MAI bookings to make a time that is suitable for you to meet.

On Wednesday 21st March bookings will be able to be made up until 7:50pm to assist parents who cannot make times earlier after school.

The booking system is accessed through the the following website

<https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au>

The booking code for this event is **vrceh** and will be open for bookings from 9am Saturday 10th March. We look forward to working seeing you and your child at these important learning conversations

Harmony Day

Harmony Day occurs on the 21st March each year and coincides with the United Nations' International Day for the elimination of Racial



Discrimination. It is for us a cultural day of respect for everyone who calls Australia home. Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day.

Australians and our St. Bernadette's school community are invited to wear an orange t-shirt or orange accessory, eg, ribbons, socks, shorts, joggers, hat to school on the day to show our support of the inclusivity of our school community.

Parents are invited to attend a Liturgy of the Word, on Monday 19th March, 8:45 am in the Church. Our school leaders will lead us in prayer and scripture and our acknowledgement of country and our involvement as a prelude to our Harmony Day events on Wednesday, 21st March.

The students of St. Bernadette's are going to be involved in a day of cultural infusion and the concept of building harmony. The Multicultural All Day Program offers students a global experience. Our program for the day will include: Hip Hop Infusion, Indigenous Infusion, Bollywood Infusion, African Dance and Drumming and Tailko Drumming. The students will rotate between 25 minute sessions of each activity.

Parents are invited to attend our Harmony Day activities and participate in any of the presentations. Our activities will begin at 9:30am and conclude at 2:40pm with the whole school participating in Tailko Drumming on the Top Court. A timetable will be in our School Newsletter next week.

The Cultural performance programs are designed to provide an exciting starting place for discussions about commonalities and differences, and about how national identities are shaped. Many aspects of the days performances will be discussed and written about to further enhance the meaning of respect and inclusivity of all nationalities, especially at our school, St. Bernadette's.

DanceFever

In Week 10 this term ALL STUDENTS from YEARS 3 to 6 are invited to participate in our DanceFever Challenge Night. On Tuesday students had their first rehearsal of their Showcase item, where all participating St Bernadette's students perform a group dance, in the style of Hip Hop. You can see footage of this via the School Facebook Page.



Details:

Date: Wednesday, 4th April 2018

Time: Doors open 4.30 p.m. for a 5.30 p.m. start – finish 9.00 p.m.

Venue: Quaycentre, Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre, Homebush

Who: The Challenge is open to ALL students from Yr. 3 to Yr. 6.

This year, all tickets for students and families will be PURCHASED ONLINE before the day via the online ticketing system trybooking.com. Closer to the date, parents will be notified of the code to use, in order to purchase these tickets. This new system has been arranged to combat the problem of long wait times when lining up to enter the venue in previous years.

Participating student tickets will need to be purchased and the children will be seated within their school area. These tickets are NOT allocated seats so that the children can be allocated seating by the teachers on the night.

Parents and spectators can also purchase tickets through trybooking.com. These tickets are ALLOCATED seats and a certain amount of seats are available directly behind your children. Once these tickets are sold out, there are additional ALLOCATED seats available in the block which are located at either end of the Arena.

Premier's Reading Challenge

The 'Premier's Reading Challenge' has begun! This year the closing date is Friday 31st August.



The students' usernames and passwords are the same as last year. New students and Kindergarten will be given their passwords and usernames in a couple of weeks. Meanwhile students can keep track of books read by simply writing down the name & author of each book, and keeping this information until passwords and usernames are allocated.

Students must read a certain number of books from the PRC Booklist to complete the challenge.

K-2	30 books	25 PRC	5 Personal Choice
3-4	20 books	15 PRC	5 Personal Choice
5-6	20 books	15 PRC	5 Personal Choice

K-2 students can read on their own or have books read to them. 3-6 students must read them on their own.

Enter the books you have read onto the online Student Reading Record by the 31st August. Books read since last September may be counted if they are on the PRC booklist.

Year 1 Excursion to 'The Big Dig'

Tuesday 6th March

We went to the city on the bus and saw the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Opera House. We were going to the 'Big Dig' in the city.

When we arrived we were able to eat our recess. After that we went into the Education Centre. I liked when we got to dig in the sand, we even took off our shoes. At the 'Dig' we dug up some things from the past. I felt like I was a real archaeologist at the 'Big Dig'. I learnt what people used in the past. Archaeologists dig things up from the past and learn about those people.

We found dominoes, horseshoes, wooden pegs, plates and China cups, even some old fashioned toys. We went looking inside an old house called the Foyes house. The house was knocked down. When they were alive they had no toilets. So they dug a hole outside in the backyard. They used some water in their bath. When we acted out the Foyes family, there were nine people in the family. They didn't have toys like we have today but they went outside and played and made up their own games. Their houses were very small but had lots of people living in them.

We went to a park for our lunch and it was near the harbour. We saw the big cruise ships and lots of people. Our teachers and parents came to look after us on the day. It was the best excursion ever and we had fun learning as Archaeologists who discover things.

**By Lucia Aiossa 1G, Alexander Puleo 1G
Martin Lousin 1B, Aarshia Arun 1B**



Year 1 Teachers

Curriculum Corner

Parent Forum

Our first Parent Forum for 2018 was on the topic of Mathematics. During the course of the evening staff presented the relationship between an 'open mindset' and how important it is for parents to model this mindset when discussing and working with their children. The staff outlined how the syllabus is organised and which strands are taught from Kinder to Year 10. Parents then had an opportunity to choose a workshop. K-2 workshop focused on importance of place value and its role in the syllabus and how counting is taught in the early years. Years 3-6 discussed how the various strands of the mathematics syllabus can be integrated. A focus was placed on area and perimeter. Parents had the opportunity for group discussions and to ask any questions that they may have had in relation to Mathematics.



Car Pick Up Service

A reminder that the Car Pick Up Service **starts at 3pm**. We ask that parents **do not** enter the car park until 3pm as parents are parking for the Tuckshop Terrace pick up and need to be able to enter, park and exit the car park prior to the Car Pick Up service commencing.

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.

Term 1 2018

Mon 29 January—Fri 13 April

Term 2 2018

Mon 30th April—Staff Development & Pupil Free 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)

COSHC—St Bernadette's, Castle Hill

Autumn Vacation Care April 16—April 27 (not Apr 25)

COSHC is available each day from 6.45am to 6.15pm.

Excursions planned:

Mon 16—Henny Penny chickens

Tue 17—COSHC All Sorts Day

Wed 18—101 Ninja Works

Thurs 19—All About Me

Fri 20—Apache Relay

Mon 23—ANZAC Day Commemorations

Tue 24—Hoyts Movies

Wed 25—CLOSED

Thurs 26—RAPS—Road Safety

Fri 27—Ancient Egypt

Please see COSHC enrolment form attached to e-newsletter for further details.

Congratulations to our ex-student **Kailyn Joseph** (Yr 10 Gilroy College) who has been selected in the Australian Team for Long Jump at the Commonwealth Games. This is a wonderful achievement and we wish Kailyn all the very best!

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!

Some of our ex-students will be performing in this production:

Olivia Spiteri—Mrs Potts

Saara Stenberg—Babette

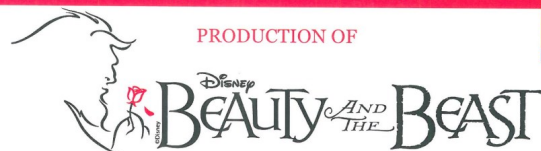
Jesper Stenberg—Monsieur D'Arque

Samuel Hennessey—Cronie

Rebecca Durney-Steel—Enchanted Ensemble

Tiana Hanna—Enchanted Ensemble

Gilroy Catholic College's



Music by
Alan Menken

Lyrics by
Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Book by
Linda Woolverton

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia). All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia

Wednesday 9th May • Thursday 10th May • Friday 11th May • Saturday 12th May | 2018

Tickets available from : www.trybooking.com/345002

Art in the Hills—Oakhill College, Castle Hill
2018 Gala Opening Night Fri 23 March 7—10.30pm
Tickets \$35 online www.artoakhill.com.au
Exhibition continues Sat 24 and Sun 25 March 10—4pm
Entry: by donation.