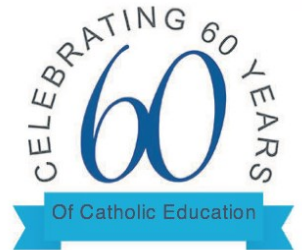




# St Bernadette's School



Friday 23 March 2018

No. 8

Dear Parents,

*“Remember this: The person who plants little will harvest only a little. But the person who plants much will harvest much. Each person should give what he has decided in his heart to give. A person should not give if it makes him sad. A person should not give if he is forced to give. God loves the person who gives happily.”*  
2 Cor: 9,6

A couple of years ago the people of Greenbelt in England came up with the idea of Living Generously. This idea was based on a common concern that looking after this planet and its people is what we are all here for; if as many people as possible could make small changes to their everyday choices, then over time they would make a big difference for everyone. So, for the Year of Living Generously, people volunteered to commit to do two actions a month to make their lives more generous to the environment, to the poor and to their communities.

It was thought that most people were worried about their world, which simply meant that they saw the problems. What was needed were people who were concerned and so set about finding solutions. Some of the simple choices that people made were to give away unwanted clothes, appliances, furniture; to become an organ donor; to reduce car kilometres by choosing to walk or use public transport for one day; to take a mug to work and not use plastic cups; to say grace before meals so as to express gratitude for what they have; turn off the tap whilst cleaning teeth; to donate blood; wear an extra jumper instead of turning on the heating. Through making small changes to their lives they could become more eco-friendly, more thankful and appreciative, more community-minded, less consumption oriented. They could make a difference if they acted together to live more generously in the world. They were motivated by the possibility of releasing a positive social virus into the atmosphere as well as being a Christian group involved in action that stands for things – not against things.

We can all be inspired by the idea of Living Generously, for if we continue our emphasis on unnecessary consumption, on big is best, on the idea of ‘must have’ simply because it’s available, then we are providing ourselves with more efficient ways to arrange the world in such a way as to cause us to lose our ability to experience it. Maybe, by embarking on a life of living more generously, we’ll discover it was how we were supposed to be living all along.

*“God of all creation,  
May our lifestyle choices be thoughtful of  
their impact on the environment.  
May we learn the art of Living Generously  
and be accountable for the personal  
piece of creation You gave to us.  
Amen.”*

## R.E. NEWS



### Season of Lent

The three practices of Lent are; Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Almsgiving: is a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given to us. St Bernadette's is always so generous in their support of Caritas Australia and our Project Compassion appeal.

Caritas Australia is the international aid and development organisation of the Catholic Church in Australia and is part of one of the largest aid and development networks in the world.

At our assembly last week, Year 6 representatives from Mini Vinnies reminded us of the 2018 Project Compassion theme, 'For A Just Future'. Throughout Lent St Bernadette's has been focusing on donating money for a just future for Syrian children who have suffered bombings, displacement from their homes and disruption to their schooling.



### Week 9 Dates

#### HOLY WEEK

#### Mon 26 March

8.30am Assembly  
3pm Motiv8sports

#### Tue 27 March

8-10am Uniform Shop  
3-4pm Dance Fever  
Afterschool Club

#### Wed 28 March

#### Holy Week Prayer Reflection

Student Banking Day  
Waste Free Lunch Day  
9.15am K19 School  
Tour/Open Day

#### Thurs 29 March

Holy Thursday  
Yrs 3-6 Cross Country  
Carnival  
3-4pm Sporting School  
Sydney FC Soccer

#### Fri 30 March

Good Friday

### Week 10 Dates

#### Sun 1 April

Easter Sunday

#### Mon 2 April

Easter Monday

#### Tues 3 April

Staff & Students return  
Yr 3 Excursion  
Riverside Theatre  
3-4pm Dance Fever  
After School Club

#### Wed 4 April

Student Banking  
Waste Free Lunch Day  
Dance Fever Interschool  
Challenge, Homebush

#### Thurs 5 April

9.15am Easter Mass  
All Parents invited

Address: 357 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill NSW 2154 Phone: 9407 6600 Fax: 9407 6699

Email: BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au Website: <http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stbernadettesprimary/> Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/StBernadettes2>

## R.E. NEWS Continued ...

For every \$75 raised Caritas will send a child from Syria to school in Jordan. It is education that will allow these children to have a just future.

In this last week of Lent, we are hoping that everyone will make a contribution to this important social justice initiative.

## Holy Week Prayer Reflection

**Wed 28 March**

We would like to invite parents to join us to pray and reflect on the events of Holy Week. The children will be going to the hall for a prayer room reflection. You are welcome to attend your child's prayer time, as below:

8.30am	Yrs 5 and 6
9:10am	Kindergarten
9:50am	Yrs 3 and 4
12:20pm	Year 1
1:45pm	Year 2

**Shane Robinson—REC**

## Building Works Expected Completion

The current building works - lift installation at the bottom of the school, front shade awning and front of administration block facade and the remodelling of the accessible bathroom are expected to be completed in readiness for the beginning of Term 2. This work will greatly enhance our current facilities. Thank you to everyone for your patience while this work has been taking place - especially at the bottom of the school where access has been restricted to both the uniform shop area and the Year 3 and 4 classrooms. I would particularly like to congratulate the fundraising efforts of the Parents and Friends Association which has contributed to the funding of the front shade awning which will offer weather protection for the many students who use the Car Pick Up service each afternoon. I would also like to express our thanks to the Catholic Education Office for the additional funding that enabled this project to take place and to include the lift and remodelling of the bathroom areas. Thanks also to architect Simon Goold, Bow Goold Architects, Michael Pruscino (CEDP Facilities) who coordinated the project and Troy, Project Manager from Reitsma Constructions.



## 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 for each student. A big congratulations to Year 2 for achieving 100% of children reaching that target! Well done! Our outstanding notes for absences continue to be reduced. Thank you for attending to these in a timely manner. While our overall attendance is still above our target we have noticed a drop in all grades with the exception of Kinder and Year 2.

Please remember that as we approach the holidays we are still working hard in our classes and learning continues each and every day until the holidays begin.

K	94%	Yr 4	96.1%
Yr 1	84.1%	Yr 5	97.0%
Yr 2	100%	Yr 6	90.3%
Yr 3	91.0%		

## Social Skills—Weeks 8, 9 & 10

### Having the ability to 'Bounce Back' (Self Management)

Over the next weeks and the remainder of the year the children and teachers will be using the words BOUNCE BACK to recall the resilience skills they are developing. The children will be presented with the words as an acronym and you can use this with them at home when talking about their social interactions. This acronym helps children and young people to memorise and recall 10 basic coping statements based around positive self-talk.

All of us can 'Bounce Back' from experiences if we feel that we have the support of others and can talk to someone when needed. We continue to encourage all of our students to speak to us and their parents when they have concerns. Our school aims for everyone to feel that they belong and feel included with a help at hand when needed.

**B**ad times don't last. Things always get better. Stay optimistic.

**O**ther people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.

**U**nhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset. Think again.

**N**obody is perfect. Not you and not others.

**C**oncentrate on the positives (no matter how small) and use laughter.

**E**verybody experiences sadness, hurt and failure, rejection and setbacks sometimes, not just you! They are a normal part of life.

**B**lame fairly. How much of what happened was due to you and others?

**A**ccept what can't be changed (but try to change what you can).

**C**atastrophizing exaggerates your worries. Don't believe the worst possible picture.

**K**eep things in perspective. It is only part of your life.

**Mrs Kathy Watt**

## Kindergarten 2019 School Tour Wednesday 28 March 9.15am

Prospective parents are invited to attend a School Tour for Kindergarten 2019. If you know of any family members or neighbours who would like to attend please ask them to register their interest with the school office on 9407 6600.

### Canteen

We have been informed by Total Canteen Solutions that they will not be continuing as the Canteen contractors for St Bernadette's beyond the end of this term. An advertisement has been placed in the local newspaper calling for tenders for the operation of the canteen and every effort will be made to have the new service in operation for the commencement of Term 2. The canteen will cease trading on Wed 11th April Term 1. Therefore, students will not be able to order lunches on 12th and 13th April.

### SCHOOL CANTEEN LICENCE ST BERNADETTE'S CASTLE HILL



Tenders are called for the School Canteen Licence commencing Term 2—30th April, 2018 for a term of 1 year (option to renew for a further 1 year). The school is a K to 6 co-educational school of 500 students and 40 staff. For a copy of the Tender Information Package, please email:

vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au.

A Tender visit is planned for 03/04/2018 between 11:30—12:30pm. Please contact the school to reserve a position. Tenders close Tuesday 10th April, 2018.

### Maths Workbooks coming home today

Today the children will be bringing home their Maths workbooks. Please take the time to sit with your child and discuss their work. Remember to praise and encourage your child for their efforts so that they will continue to learn with enthusiasm. We encourage you to write a comment to your child in their book, after their last piece of work. Children really do appreciate your comments and it allows us to know that you have had the opportunity to 'walk' through it with your child. Additionally, we ask that the books be returned on Monday so that your child can continue their written work in the appropriate book.

### Parent/ Student /Teacher Learning Conversations

Thank you to all our parents and students for participating in these valuable meetings. The children really are very proud about sharing their learning goals with you and the conversations are a wonderful opportunity for the children to experience teachers and parents working with them to support their ongoing learning development. This afternoon you will receive an invitation to complete an online evaluation feedback form about the 2018 Parent/ Student /Teacher Learning Conversations. The staff really appreciate your feedback and we thank you for taking the time to complete the form.



## Primary Cross Country Carnival PARENT HELPERS NEEDED!



Thursday 29th March 9:00am - 11:30am

St Bernadette's children aged 8-13 will be participating in the Primary Cross Country Carnival next week, at Crestwood Reserve. All are welcome to join us for the morning. See below for the draft timetable of events.

Time	Age Group
9:00	Walk the course
9:30	12/13 Boys (3 km)
9:45	12/13 Girls (3 km)
10:00	11 Yr Boys (3 km)
10:15	11 Yr Girls (3 km)

Recess—In house colour areas (House chants & Points)

10:30	8/9 Yr Boys (2 km)
10:45	8/9 Yrs Girls (2 km)
11:00	10 Yr Boys (2 km)
11:15	10 Yr Girls (2 km)

After 11:30am House Chants

Approx 11:45am Age Champion Medals and House Shield presented.

## Infants Cross Country Carnival PARENT HELPERS NEEDED!

Friday 6th April 10:30am - 1:00pm

All Infants children in Kindergarten to Year 2 will be participating in the Infants Cross Country Carnival at St Bernadette's on Friday 6th April. The Infants Cross Country carnival relies on parent helpers. Parents are invited to **come for morning tea** on the grass area with their children and then stay for the carnival afterwards which will run from 11:00am until 1:00pm. We look forward to the students participating in some fun novelty activities such as obstacle course, parachute play, relays and of course a mini cross country race. All are welcome to join us for the morning. Any assistance from parents/grandparents on the day would be greatly appreciated.

### Special Congratulations

This week two Year 6 students, **Chloe and Jarratt**, represented The Parramatta Diocese at the MacKillop NSWCPSS Swimming Carnival. Both students swam extremely well against a group of equally talented swimmers.

Congratulations to **Chloe** who won Silver in U12 Girls backstroke and has progressed through to the NSWPSA carnival in April.



Below is the information from our website regarding the pick up of children in the afternoon. During the recent wet weather we have had a number of very congested traffic delays and ask that you be mindful of the procedures in place as they are there for the safety of everyone.

### Collecting children from school

Please park in the main car park and then collect children from the Tuckshop area. Children are cared for in the Office if something unforeseen happens. Children are not left unattended under any circumstance. Please be very careful when backing out of car spaces in the car park. Be aware of pedestrians and other traffic in the car park.

**Car Pick Up Service** - this operates from 3pm every day. Vehicles enter the car park via Brisbane Road and display a 'yellow number card' in their front windscreen. This number is then called out and students proceed to the teacher on duty who guides them into the car and then parents drive down the driveway to Brisbane Road. There is **no** right hand turn at the bottom of the driveway. Thank you for your ongoing assistance. It is much appreciated.

### Dance Fever For Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April from 8:45-9:45 the Infants students will have the opportunity to show off their newly learnt dance moves with you. Parents are invited to come along and join us on top court. You'll be amazed at the moves the students have.



### Dance Fever

Tickets are available now through the link below. Remember you will need to purchase a ticket for **ALL PARTICIPATING STUDENTS** and any spectators on the night.



<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=356755&>

Thank you to everyone who has returned their notes and money for their Showcase costumes. We have purchased the black t-shirts and black caps, along with white material for their scarves. These will be given to the children on the day of **dress rehearsal - which is during their Dance Fever Lesson on Tuesday 3rd April**. Students also need to bring their Army style pants - khaki or green pants, to give them a *Military look*. We are looking forward to a great evening.

### Premier's Reading Challenge

Another good week for the PRC. Congratulations to Lucia Aiossa, Isaac Beshay, Sophia Papandrea, Zara Hawkes, Samantha Badenhorst and Paavni Kumar who have all completed the Premier's Reading Challenge. We also have 70 children logged on and working towards completing the challenge.

**Gaye Crammond—Librarian**

### 2018 School Fees

Families should now have received their 2018 Term 1 School Fee Statements from the Catholic Education Office. If you have not yet received your account please contact the school office as soon as possible. Unless undertaking a Flexible Payment Plan or other arrangement, payment of fees were due **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018**.

Fees can be made by cash, credit card, EFTPOS, BPAY or POSTBILLPAY. If paying by BPAY please make sure the correct biller and reference code is used from the statement, this is located on the bottom right hand side of your school fee account.

Should you wish to make an arrangement for the payment of your 2018 school fees, please contact Mrs Vicki Cassidy on 9407-6600 or email [vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au).

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Ryan Murray** ex St Bernadette's student who has been selected as one of 120 students to participate in the 2018 Constitutional Convention in Canberra. There were 1000 applications for this opportunity and Ryan will represent Oakhill College at the convention.

**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](http://www.trybooking.com/345002). Join us for a fabulous night!

### 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)