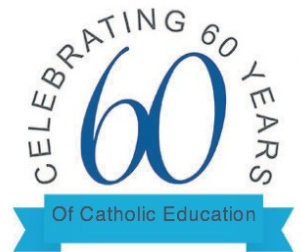




St Bernadette's School



Friday 7 December 2018 — Term 4 Week 8

No. 40

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that there is less than 2 weeks of the 2018 school year left to go. This has been and continues to be a very busy year.

It is when we get to this stage of the year that we start to reflect on what we have achieved and what we have left to achieve.

For our K to Yr 2 children the last week has been a very busy one with them engaging in an intensive 5 day swimming program. They and their teachers have managed this all in their stride, though we are pretty sure that there have been some very tired little ones at the end of each day. Our children in Years 3 and 4 have been ending off units of Project Based Learning and commencing their advent units on waiting and preparing. Our Year 5 students have been concentrating on selecting the peers that they would like to take on student leadership positions of Captain, Vice Captains and House Colour Leaders for 2019 and our Year 6 students have been preparing for their graduation.

Even though everyone is busy everywhere at this time of the year, we all should take up the challenge to "stop time" for just a few moments everyday to remember and to be grateful for what has taken place over the last 12 months. What kind of memories are there from this past year? What direction is our life now heading? Ask ourselves "Where am I now, and where would I like to be?"

Leanne Nettleton
Principal

R.E. NEWS



This Sunday is the second Sunday of Advent. We light another purple candle on the Advent wreath to represent the hope of Christ coming to the world. The word 'hope' has two meanings in the Bible. The first, *tiqvah*, contains the sense of eager anticipation or waiting. The second, *elpis*, depicts a sense of confident expectation based on certainty. Biblical hope is secured by God's faithfulness to His promises. For the Old Testament leaders, their hope was in the Messiah's arrival. For us, it is the hope of the Messiah's return.

The children know and understand that Advent is a time of waiting and preparing for the birth of our saviour. Here are some suggestions on activities to do during the month of December through the season of Advent.



1. Make an Advent wreath at home – you will need 3 purple candles, one pink candle and one white candle for the middle of the wreath and use this as a focus for your family prayer.
2. Read the Scripture of the day and discuss the message God and what it means for our lives.
3. Decorate your own Jesse Tree. Use ornaments that represent people and stories from the Bible eg. you might hang a dove to represent Noah or a harp to represent David.

Each night you could read a passage from the Bible on the person you have chosen. Celebrating Advent will help keep your children focused on Jesus and what we can do while we wait to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Mrs Shane Robinson—REC

Week 9 Dates

Waste Free Lunch
Everyday

Mon 10 December

8.30am Assembly
9am Thanksgiving
Mass—Church

Tues 11 December

8:45am Primary Awards
Ceremony
11:00am Infants Awards
Ceremony
(Church)

Wed 12 December

Student Banking (last
one for the year)

Thurs 13 December

From 5:15pm Christmas
on the Grass
Celebration
5.50pm Children to be
seated
6pm Concert Starts

Coming Dates:

Mon 17 December

Meet the Teacher

Tues 18 December

Last Day for Uniform
Shop
Yr 6 Graduation Mass

Wed 19 December

Yr 6 Fun Day
Christmas Mufti Day &
last day for Students

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

Address: 357 Old Northern Road CASTLE HILL NSW 2154 **Phone:** 02 9407 6600

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

Last Day of School for 2018

Wednesday 19th December is the last day for all students in Kindy to Year 6 for 2018. Year 6 will be attending their FUN DAY and all the other children are welcome to wear Christmas Mufti to help celebrate this joyous time of year. Staff will be at school on Thursday 20th December for a Staff Development Day.

End of Year Reports

Reports will be coming home on Tuesday 11th December 2018.

Condolences and Prayers

Noah's great-grandmother, known to us as 'Ahma' in Malaysia, KHOR Lai Fung has passed away at the age of 97, leaving 9 children, 20 grandchildren, and 25 great-grandchildren (of which Noah KW and Isabella were two).

Attendance

Every Learner Every Day—Attendance rate to date is 86.7%. 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 and Year 5 who have consistently throughout 2018 maintained our target level. Students who have had 100% attendance this year will be acknowledged at our Awards ceremonies on Tuesday 11th December. 35% of our total absences this year has been a result of leave taken. We encourage you to arrange travel within the school holiday periods and the 2019 school dates are attached to assist you with your planning for next year.

2019 School Holidays

Term 1 - Sat 13th April - Sun 28th April

Term 2 - Sat 6th July - Sun 21st July

Term 3 - Sat 28th September - Sun 13th October

Term 4 - Begin Thursday 19th December (NB:19th / 20th Dec Staff Development Days)

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass

Monday 10th December 9:00am

followed by 'THANK YOU' MORNING TEA. All

parents and friends are invited to join us at our end of year Thanksgiving Mass. This is also an opportunity for the school community to thank all our parent helpers who have assisted in classrooms, at carnivals, on excursions, as part of the P&F and in any way at all such as covering books, in the gardens, transporting students to and from debating, choir or other extra curricular activities. You are all invited to come along for our Mass and then to enjoy a 'THANK YOU' morning tea afterwards in the hall.



Christmas Wishes

As there are a number of children at St Bernadette's who have severe allergies we kindly ask that you do not send in any edible treats for the children to give to each other. This includes gingerbread, chocolates, candy canes, marshmallows or any other lolly, biscuit or cake. We ask this so that we can ensure that our school community remains safe for all of our children. Thank you for your co-operation in this important matter.



PS: Children are welcome to carry out the Christmas spirit by sending and receiving Christmas cards with lovely messages of joy and thanks.

Mathematics Assessment Interviews

At the beginning of the 2019 school year the teachers at St Bernadette's will again be administering the Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) for each of the students in their class.



This is a 1:1 interview with a student and takes approximately 30 minutes. The information gathered from this assessment will assist the teacher's knowledge of where the students are in their understanding of number.

In Week 10, families will receive a login code via email to use with the school interview online booking tool to organise an appointment time.

The MAI interviews will take place on **Tuesday 29th January (pm) and Wednesday 30th January 2019.** The login code will be sent first to families with 3 or 4 children, then families with 2 children and then families with 1 child. This is to allow parents who have more than 1 child the opportunity to book all their children at the same time.

Please note that all interviews will be held in the 2019 classrooms.

Any child who is not assessed at one of these opportunities will be assessed as soon as possible in the first weeks of school.

Melissa Beggs—Assistant Principal





CANTEEN – 2019 New Lunch Ordering System

Families will no longer have access to order their child/ children’s lunch order via Munch Monitors in 2019. Instead, our canteen supplier Healthy Bites have asked that all families register all lunch orders at the beginning on the new school year, Term 1 – 2019:- via www.QuickCliq.com.au

QuickCliq - Support Line 1300 116637 (Please contact QuickCliq not the school)

All outstanding money left on your family Munch Monitor account will need to be finalised before the end of the school year. Any money remaining on your account after this date, parents will need to request a refund directly from Munch Monitors on **1300 796 190**.

How to get started:

Visit www.Quickcliq.com.au

Sign up by completing the registration form

Receive a confirmation email with activation link

Activate your account and login to the website add student and nominate their school

Order whenever you like

How to order meals:-

Select a student

Select date

Add items

CONFIRM

Executive Director’s Summer Reading Challenge

With summer now here it should be full steam ahead with the Summer Reading Challenge. To find out details about how to enter the challenge simply go to

www.parra.catholic.edu.au and you could even win a mini iPad. You have all summer to enter and the more times you enter the more chances you have to win. Entries close on 4th February 2019. Remember we want the children to keep working on their reading skills over the long holiday break.



St Bernadette’s Summer Reading Challenge

Don’t forget that St Bernadette’s is running its own reading challenge over summer. Check your emails for entry forms. Remember you can enter the competition as many times as you like.

Cleaning Up

As many families start to prepare for the festive season and finish their spring cleaning, it’s time to hunt for any reading books at home that are marked with the St Bernadette’s school stamp. Please return any books that you find to your child’s teacher.



School Banking

The last school banking for 2018 will be Wednesday 12th December.

Uniform Shop—Last day to purchase school uniform this year is **Tuesday 18th December**.

School Leavers

We are planning for the 2019 school year and to help us with this please let the office know if your family will not be continuing at St Bernadette's in 2019. A reminder to families that a term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing **MUST** be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during the term for the next term and where appropriate notice has been received, a pro-rata credit will be calculated. Where a term's notice has not been given to the principal, the term's school fees will be charged for your child/children.

St Bernadette's Football Club

Attention all SBFC families—have you returned your jersey? Please bring your 2018 soccer jersey along to the carols night. We will have a collection box under the SBFC marquee. Thank you.

P & F NEWS:

Book Club 2019 HELP NEEDED

We are looking for a new team to run Book Club for 2019. Training and support will be offered. If you are interested in continuing our school Book Club at St Bernadette's, please contact Steve Lavis on president.stbpnf@gmail.com

Your support would be very much appreciated

P & F TREASURER - POSITION VACANT

If you are interested in being part of our great P&F team the role of Treasurer is available. There will be support for you in the role from past treasurers who have indicated their willingness to help the incoming person understand the role. If you are this person or you know of anyone who would be interested please let a member of the committee know. You will be most welcome!

Welcome Barbecue— Kindergarten 2019 families & new families to St Bernadette's in 2019

An invitation is extended to all our new families to the school to attend a Welcome Barbecue on **Friday 8 February at 5.30pm** onwards. All you need to bring is a blanket/chair to sit on.



Kindergarten 2018 (Yr 1 2019) families: you would have enjoyed the P&F Welcome Barbecue at the start of this year and now we ask you to be hosts for our Kindy and new families next year. Please mark this date in your diaries an email was sent earlier this week and further details will be sent at the start of the year.

Term 4

Mon 15 October—Staff & Students return
Fri 9 November—Staff Development & Pupil Free Day
Wed 19 December - last day for students

2019 Term 1:

Tues 29 Jan—SDD / Pupil Free Day / * MAI (pm)
Wed 30 Jan—*MAI Day / Pupil Free Day
Thurs 31 Jan—Yrs 1 to 6 commence
Fri 1 Feb—Kindergarten 2019 commence

**Maths Assessment Interviews*

