



# St Bernadette's School

Friday 28 February 2020 — Term 1 Week 5 No. 5

Dear Parents,  
St Bernadette's is celebrating **Catholic Schools Week**, March 2nd - 6th March.

Do you know that this year we celebrate 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia and that the first Catholic school was in the Parramatta Diocese?

On Thursday 5th March, Parents, family members and friends are warmly invited to attend a Catholic Schools Week Liturgy in the Church (9am) followed by Open Classrooms. Celebrations will conclude with morning tea for visitors (10:30am). There will also be opportunities for school tours for families considering enrolment in 2021.

If you know any friends, relatives or neighbours who would like to be included in the school tours, please ask them to ring the school office to book a place. Enrolment for 2021 Kindergarten places are now being accepted. Enrolment packages are available from the School Office or School website.

Thank you once again for your support in arranging alternative care for your children to allow the teachers the opportunity to take part in a day of Professional Learning last Monday. It was an extremely valuable day as we worked with Mr Michael McDowell and members of the Parramatta Diocesan Office. Mr McDowell is a well respected educator and is currently the Superintendent of the Ross School District in California. He is a national and international presenter, speaking on instruction, learning, leadership and innovation. Mr McDowell has been working with the Parramatta Diocese over the last couple of years and has presented at system learning days as well as working with individual schools. St Bernadette's is lucky enough to be one of 10 schools in the diocese that he is working with throughout the year. Mr McDowell will return to St Bernadette's for a short visit in June, where he will meet with some teachers and possibly walk through classrooms to see the amazing work that teachers and students are doing.

Have a restful weekend.

**Mrs Bianca Cooke—Principal**

## R.E. NEWS



During the Season of Lent, we can focus on the three practices of Lent that are; Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

Prayer: In class, the children pray special Lenten prayers as they draw closer to God in preparation for Easter.



Fasting: Many children have chosen to give up a favourite toy, game or food treat for the duration of Lent as they begin to realise the suffering so many people in our world experience every day.

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. During Lent St Bernadette's always raises money for Caritas through Project Compassion. This year's theme is 'Let's Go Further Together'. This year we will fight to raise funds for the most vulnerable.

### In 2020:

- 1 in 7 people still go hungry every day.
- 1.2 billion people don't have access to clean drinking water.
- There are 11 million women and girls in forced labour.

**It only takes seconds to make the world a better place. Are you with us?**

FOR EVERY \$20 WE can buy 50 chicks for a small farming family, increasing their supply of food and ability to earn an income in Cambodia.

**Mrs Shane Robinson**  
—Religion  
Coordinator



### Week 6 Dates

Waste Free Recess & Lunch  
Everyday

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

**Mon 2 March**  
8.30am Morning  
Assembly  
3pm Motiv8sport

**Tues 3 March**  
8-10am Uniform Shop  
Dance Fever  
1.40pm Dance Fever  
Rehearsals for  
Challenge Night

**Wed 4 March**  
**Student Banking**  
**7.30pm P&F Meeting**  
**(Library)**

**Thurs 5 March**  
**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**  
**WEEK INCLUDING**  
**OPEN DAY FOR**  
**KINDERGARTEN 2021**  
**9am**

**Fri 6 March**  
Yr 1 & Yr 2 Excursion  
2pm Whole School  
Assembly in the  
Church—All invited

### Coming Dates

**Fri 20 March**  
4pm P&F Movie Night &  
Welcome BBQ

**Thurs 2 April**  
Dance Fever Interschool  
Challenge (pm)

**Thurs 9 April**  
Last Day for Term 1



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK INCLUDING Open Day & Enrolment Day for Kindergarten 2021

### Kindergarten 2021

Prospective and existing parents are invited to attend our Open Day & Enrolment Day on **Thursday 5th March at 9am**.

A brief presentation by Mrs Cooke will be followed by Open Classrooms/School Tour. Please register your interest by contacting Mrs Dawn Crake in the school office on 9407 6600. Enrolment packs will also be available on the day.

### Existing families wishing to enroll for Kindergarten 2021

If you wish to enroll a sibling into Kindy next year, enrolment packs are available from the school office or you can download the enrolment form from our website:

<http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au/Enrol-Now/How-to-enrol>

Interviews will commence shortly for all families so please have your form submitted (with all relevant paperwork). It is very important that sibling families let us know by the **end of March** if they have a child to enroll next year so that we can plan our intake for 2021. Thank you for your assistance.

### Professional Learning Day



**OPEN DAY**  
5 March 9:00am-10:30am



St Bernadette's  
**OPEN DAY**

*All Welcome!*

Thursday 5 March

9am—Liturgy  
followed by  
Open Classrooms  
then  
Morning Tea

## Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,	That equals ..	Which is ...	and over 13 years of schooling that's ...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

every learner  
every day



### First School Assembly

Congratulations to our school captains Leah and Antonio who lead our first school assembly last week.



### Shrove Tuesday

A big thank you to the P&F for providing a pancake for students on Tuesday. Also thank you to Mrs Dianna Zaiter and all her many wonderful helpers for serving the children—as you can see they really enjoyed them!





### **Vision Valley Camp - Year 5 2020**

After three busy weeks of hard work, Year Five travelled to our very first and memorable leadership camp on the 13th -14th February. We participated in various adventurous activities such as water sliding, teamwork filled raft building, fun filled archery, and we had such a great time at giant crate stacking. These activities assisted us in working on our teamwork skills and developing responsibility. Before everyone got messy, we had a liturgy about our theme for the year, 'Challenge Your Limits'. We read a scripture revolving around our theme. Prayers of the faithful were spoken and songs were sung.

When we arrived it was pouring with rain but we still persevered to get to our cabins. A little rain never hurt anyone (unlike a few who didn't have a raincoat and complained about having wet hair). Along with our teachers, we met our fabulous camp guides who helped us throughout our camp experience. We grabbed our raincoats, put on our gumboots and headed off to our liturgy. We were greeted by a statue of Mother Mary, Lectio Divina cards, hope and faith centerpieces and many more objects relating to our slogan that we were about to learn, 'Challenge Your Limits'. We then read a scripture that challenged our thoughts and ideas (One Body With Many Members- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27). This passage showed us how we are all one and no one is less important than others. We all come together to form one community, Year 5 2020. We trekked back to our cabins so we could find out our groups and our first well awaited activity.

Despite the gloomy weather Year 5 went on with their activities. First up for our group was raft building. We got into teams and put on our thinking caps. We learnt to give each other the equal opportunity to share our ideas then decide on the best strategy. Everyone got muddy but we put our survivor faces on, tied up the knots and tested our rafts. Two people from each team got paddles and put on their life jackets to test our creations. The boys were up first. Douglas and Michael hopped onto their raft and tested it out. It was going smoothly until they started to wobble. They toppled over and got *soaked*. Maya and Audrey tested the other raft which was built. The raft glided into the water then.. their raft collapsed. No raft riding for the girls.

For our second activity, we participated in exhilarating archery. We were taught how to wield a bow and arrow just like Robin Hood while still keeping safe and out of harm. We worked in teams of three and four, everyone cooperating and getting a chance to show off their skills. Some people even got the chance to use the compound bow with Miss El-Hage even managing to score a bullseye.

The last activity of the day was giant crate stacking. For this activity, I believe that Year five really did challenge their limits with this highly anticipated activity, fighting through the murky weather and working perfectly as a team.

Everyone eventually jumped down from the crates with style, singing the James Bond theme song on the way. Though some people struggled with their harnesses, we had a great time during this one-of-a-kind activity. Afterwards, we clambered up the rocky hill back to our cabins, patiently awaiting a well-deserved shower and gourmet butter chicken for dinner.

On the second and final day, we proceeded to water sliding. We had been waiting for this activity for so long and we finally got to enjoy it! Even though this activity didn't involve teamwork, it involved sharing. We grabbed our mats and headed up the staircase. We shared some jokes, riddles and laughs! We learnt a move called the 'sushi roll'. We wrapped ourselves in our mats and layed on our backs. We went 2x faster when this move was used. The teachers, including the principal Mrs Cooke, participated in water sliding! They had a blast although their hair was sopping wet! It was a great activity to finish camp with.

All in all, camp was the best experience of Year 5 so far. Vision Valley taught us to be responsible and brave, to bond with one another, to learn and to become leaders. Vision Valley taught us not to be afraid to make mistakes. We are grateful for this opportunity and we hope future Year 5 students enjoy camp as much as we did.

***By Audrey Sullivan & Sienna De Juan***



## Birthday Cakes

If you are sending in a birthday cake for your child's birthday, please only bring cup cakes, donuts or similar. This makes distribution in the classroom so much easier without the safety issues of bringing a knife into the classroom. Children do not bring lollies, chocolates or lolly bags to school. Thank you.



## School Fees

**Term 1** School Fee accounts should have been received by now. Fees are due on **Wednesday, 18th March 2020**. Flexible Payment Plans (FPP) will again be offered in all schools in the Parramatta Diocese 2020. The FPP is an alternative to our current payment terms of **30 days** and offers families the 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 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 arrangement for the payment of your 2020 school fees please contact Mrs Vicki Cassidy on 9407 6600 or email [vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au).

A reminder to all 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 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 terms school fees will be charged for your child/children.

## Parish News:

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION 2020

Parish families who would like their child to commence preparation to receive the sacrament of holy communion are invited to attend our information evening being held on **Tuesday 17th March 2020**. The evening will commence at 7.00pm in the Church and will last approximately one hour. Children do not need to attend. This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 4 or above, who have received the sacraments of baptism and reconciliation. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Alice Bradshaw (Sacramental Co-ordinator) at the parish office on 9634 2622 or [sacraments@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stbernadette.org.au) (Mondays & Tuesdays).

### Term 1 2020

Thurs 9 April—Last Day Term 1

### Term 2:

Mon 27 April to Fri 3 July

### Term 3:

Mon 20 July to Fri 25 September

### Term 4:

Mon 12 October to Fri 18 December

## P&F News:

COME JOIN US

# P&F Meeting

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4, 7:30 PM

SCHOOL LIBRARY

- Reports on P&F and school activities
- Meet other parents
- Contribute to our school community

## Outdoor Movie & BBQ

Friday March 20—tickets available online. Refer to page 5 for details.

## Uniform Shop

Our uniform shop is open on Tuesdays between 8 and 10am—Term Time only.

To order uniform: download order form from website (community/school notes/uniform) and email uniform shop directly before Tuesday on:

[uniformshop.stbpnf@gmail.com](mailto:uniformshop.stbpnf@gmail.com) or school email: [bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au). Orders will then be processed and sent home via your child on Tuesday.

## Gilroy Catholic College

Gilroy Catholic College Enrolments for Year 7 2021 Applications close Friday 27 March 2020.

First Round Offers will be sent out Monday 6 April 2020. Families who wish to enrol for Year 7 2021 and currently have a student attending Gilroy will need to complete an application form.

Application Packages are available from the College office or you can download the forms from the College website: [gilroy.catholic.edu.au](http://gilroy.catholic.edu.au) - click on How to Enrol

For all enquiries contact the College office on 8853 8200 or the Registrar Mary McBain: [mmcbain@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mmcbain@parra.catholic.edu.au)

**R.I.P.** †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to the Smith family (Georgie in 1W), following the recent passing of her Aunty. May she rest in peace.

**Carlile Swimming, Cherrybrook** (9980 7822). Swimming lessons for all ages.

Visit: <https://www.carlile.com.au/cherrybrook/>







# OUTDOOR MOVIE

# BBQ

*Friday* **MARCH 20**

**BBQ** 5:30pm **\$15 PER FAMILY** **MOVIE** 7pm

**Venue: St Bernadette's School, Castle Hill**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM TRYBOOKING

**[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/BIQVT](https://www.trybooking.com/biqvt)**

- BBQ, coffee van and movie snacks available on the night
- BYO rug/chair
- Family friendly movie

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