



St Bernadette's School

Friday 13th March 2020 — Term 1 Week 7 No. 7

Dear Parents,

This coming Friday St Bernadette's is celebrating two significant events: Harmony Day AND the National Day Against Bullying. We have many activities planned for the day and I invite all children to come to school wearing either their National Cultural Costume or clothes with the colour orange. Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day and signifies communication and meaningful conversations.

Harmony Day is a national celebration of inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background. The National Day Against Bullying is a day to learn what bullying is and isn't, as well as learning ways to deal with difficult situations. You can see how these two events go hand in hand as both events highlight the importance of tolerance and respect. Please take the time to speak to your children about the day and the key messages they have learnt.

O God You created all people in your image.

We thank you for the amazing variety of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever widening circles of friendship and show us your presence in those who are most different from us.

Help us to love and care for each other just as you care and love each one of us.

We ask you to bless all the sick, homeless and imprisoned; the weary, the lonely and the lost. We pray for compassion, kindness, healing and protection for all those who are suffering. Help us to be compassionate towards all, sharing the load of each other and all those in need.

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Mrs Bianca Cooke—Principal

R.E. NEWS



"I am He, the one speaking with you."
John 4:42

Loving and merciful God, I search for you in the world around me.

Like the woman at the well who encounters Jesus in the ordinariness of her day,

May my heart and mind be open so that I can speak with you.

During Lent you invite me to let go of the things that prevent me from being single hearted.

I pray that I will seek only "the Living Water" that which is healing and truly life-giving.

Amen



Week 8 Dates

Waste Free Recess & Lunch Everyday

Parent/Teacher/Student Learning Conversations

Mon 16th March
8.30am Morning Assembly

Tues 17th March
8-10am Uniform Shop Dance Fever
2.45pm Auskick (final one)

Wed 18th March
Student Banking
7.45am Choir
Late night parent meetings

Thurs 19th March
9am School Tour for Kindergarten 2021

Fri 20th March
HARMONY DAY
7.45am School Band & Music Tuition
2pm Whole School Assembly—All invited

Tues 31 March
1.45pm School Tour for Kindergarten 2021

ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2021

Please call: 02 9407 6600

For our next school tour

Problems and Questions

Have a school related question or a problem and not sure who to go to for help? The class teacher is always the first person to contact. You can do this in a variety of ways:

1. send in a note
2. email to- bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au
3. phone call- leave a message and the teacher will respond as soon as possible
4. face to face chat- this needs to be pre-arranged as teachers have before and after school duties and may not be available on the spur of the moment.

If you need further assistance, contact the Grade Mentor listed below.

Kinder- Mrs Corena Laso

Year 1 & Year 2- Mrs Charmain Floody

Year 3 & Year 4- Mrs Shane Robinson

Year 5 & Year 6- Mrs Karen Orsini

If you require any further assistance, contact Mrs Charmain Floody (Assistant Principal) or Mrs Bianca Cooke (Principal).

Under no circumstances is it appropriate for parents to approach other parents or their children, either by email, phone, social media or in person, with the intention of resolving the issues.

Please be aware that emails sent to school or to teachers will be read during normal work hours. This is in line with CEDP's communication guidelines for staff.

Complaints & Grievances

Parents please note that if you would like to make a complaint/grievance about a school matter, please collect a complaints form from the school office or send an email to BernadetteCH@parra.catholic.edu.au
All matters will be attended to under strict confidentiality.

Schools Going Cashless

The Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is advising schools to transition to a cashless environment as much as possible. When making school payments please consider using EFT, direct debit, credit card payments, BPoint, BPay, Post BillPay etc. More information regarding this transition will be shared as it becomes available.

Social Media

Official St Bernadette's information is shared regularly with families via a variety of sources- weekly electronic newsletter, email, the school's website and the school Facebook account. When it comes to social media, please do not request staff to become 'friends' as they are not allowed to do so and do not wish to cause offence by not accepting.

Social Skills— Week 8

Displaying Care and Compassion—'Safe'

We recite our school prayer by showing Strength through Gentleness in our words and actions. This allows us all to recognise our responsibility of providing a safe environment for all at our school at home.

NAPLAN Update

On Monday the 23rd of March Year 5 and Year 3 will participate in a Compulsory Practice test of NAPLAN. This will have no influence on student performance, it is a test of the sites used and our system capabilities. We will conduct the trials in test like conditions using the same processes so the students will become familiar with this.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day occurs on the 21st March each year. It is a day in which Australians celebrate the core values of inclusiveness, respect for other cultures, tolerance and diversity. It is a day that began in 1999 and coincides with the UN's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. At St Bernadette's we will be recognising Harmony Day on Friday 20th March and invite our school community to wear their national dress or an orange t-shirt or orange accessory, eg ribbons, socks, shorts, joggers or hat to school on the day to show our support and inclusivity of our school community.

**HARMONY
DAY 21
MARCH**



Parents are invited to attend a Prayer Service on Friday 20th March at 9am on Top Court. Our school leaders will lead us in prayer and scripture, and our acknowledgement of country. We invite any parents who might like to read a prayer in their native language with their children to read the prayer in English to contact the office. At the conclusion of our Liturgy we will have a parade of National Dress.

Friday 20th March is also Bullying No Way Day so the children will spend the morning session on understanding what bullying is and how we can stand together to say, "Bullying. No way!"

The middle sessions K-6 will spend time together in classes learning about Harmony Day. Our day will end with assembly at 2pm in the Church.

Bullying

National definition of bullying for schools

Developed by educators across Australia

Bullying is an **ongoing** and **deliberate misuse of power** in relationships through **repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour** that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an **individual or a group** misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying can happen **in person or online**, via various digital platforms and devices, and it can be **obvious** (overt) or **hidden** (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have **immediate, medium and long-term effects** on those involved, including **bystanders**. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.



R.I.P. †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to the Heyes family (Khiara in 4 White and Lucas in 6 White) following the recent passing of their grandmother. May she rest in peace.



R.I.P. †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to the Robinson family (Jack in 5 Gold), following the recent passing of his grandparent.





Room to Grow,
Support to Succeed

St Bernadette's
PRIMARY CASTLE HILL
ENROL NOW

ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2021

- ◊ SCHOOL TOURS—contact the school office for the next available tour.
- ◊ Enrolment packs available from the school office or forms can be downloaded from our website or via email.
- ◊ Enrolment interviews with the principal starting in March.
- ◊ Enrolment forms to be submitted to the school office by Friday 3rd April 2020.

St Bernadette's School

357 Old Northern Road (entry via Brisbane Rd)

CASTLE HILL NSW 2154

Tel: 02 9407 6600

Email: Bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website:

www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Bernadettes-Primary-Castle-Hill>

Kindergarten 2021

Existing families wishing to enrol their child into St Bernadette's next year are asked to contact the school office by the end of March. All enrolment forms are to be returned to the office by Friday 3rd April 2020.

Premier's Reading Challenge

What a fantastic beginning to the Premier's Reading Challenge. We have 17 students who have already completed the Challenge. They have done a great job recording all the books they have read since last September. Congratulations to the following: *Georgie Smith, Sophia-Therese Raad, Benjamin-Jude Raad, Xavier Ranieri, Sebastian Haywood, Zara Osborn, Adam Wassif, Joseph-Anthony Raad, Lucas Ranieri, Samantha Badenhorst, Hannah Cherian, Juliana Farag, Ella Hammersley, Rachel Saad and Patrick Windress.*

Lost Property

1 boys black school shoe size 1.5 E (left after Motive8sports?) and a soccer ball.

School Fees

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.

Parent Teacher Meeting This Week

Thank you for making the time to meet with your child's teacher next week. This meeting is a chance to put a face to a name as well as discuss learning goals. Take advantage of this opportunity to inform the teacher of anything you feel that is pertinent to your child's education and well-being.

These meetings will go ahead as planned and the Catholic Education Office and all schools will continue to respond to any public health needs as directed regarding the coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19). When attending these meetings it is requested that all community members be mindful and take the usual precautions to prevent the spread of any infection or illness.

- Do not attend the meetings if you are unwell
- Wash hands frequently and thoroughly, soap is recommended over sanitiser
- Avoid touching face, ears and nose
- Sneeze or cough into your elbow, not your hand
- Do not share drinks and food
- Drink lots of water
- Avoid unnecessary touching of others- handshakes, kissing, hugs

Please do not take offence when the teachers do not offer the customary greeting of a handshake. Once this health issue has passed, we will of course return to this polite gesture of welcome.

If you feel the need to cancel your booking, please notify the office.

Thank for your continued support.

Bianca Cooke—Principal

What we can do

Student tips

If it happens in person, try these:

- **Ignore them.** Try not to show any reaction.
- **Tell them to stop** and walk away.
- **Pretend you don't care.**
- **Go somewhere safe.**
- **Get support** from your friends.

If it happens online, try these:

- **Avoid responding** to the bullying.
- **Report and block** anyone who is bullying online.
- **Protect yourself online** using privacy settings and keep records.

If you see someone being bullied:

- **Leave negative conversations.** Don't join in.
- **Support others** being bullied.

If it doesn't stop:

- **Talk to an adult** (parent/carer/teacher) who can help stop the bullying.
- **Keep asking** for support until the bullying stops.

Parent tips

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the whole story.
2. **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame.
3. **Ask** your child what they want you to do about it and how you can help.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find strategies.
5. **Check in** regularly with your child.

Need help now?

Kids Helpline www.kidshelpline.com.au

1800 551 800

headspace www.headspace.org.au

1800 650 890

Online bullying www.esafety.gov.au

BULLYING. NO WAY!

P&F News:

Due to unforeseen circumstances we had to cancel the Movie & BBQ event on Friday, 20 March. We are extremely sorry to disappoint the kids. Those families who bought tickets will be refunded shortly.

Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Mrs Bianca Cooke - Principal