



St Bernadette's School

Friday 20th March 2020 — Term 1 Week 8

No. 8

Dear Parents and Families,

What a joy it was to see children (and staff) dressed in their cultural clothing or the colour orange to celebrate two significant events, Harmony Day and the National Day Against Bullying! The children learnt all about acceptance and tolerance as well as care and compassion for others. They were reminded of the right way that we should treat each other and that our differences make us unique. What a great way to promote harmony, relationship building and to be positive examples to others, especially when faced with society's current situation of uncertainty, prejudice and greed.

I wish to publicly commend our wonderful staff for the extraordinary lengths they have gone to in these last few weeks of COVID-19 alerts. They have turned up for work to be with your children, they have continued their teaching programs with dedication and professionalism, even when they have been faced with the same feelings of uncertainty that the general public are experiencing. They have also prepared lessons and resources that can be given to students in the eventuality of school closures and have already started supporting students who are currently working from home. I know you join me in thanking them.

Just a reminder that school is OPEN until we are directed otherwise. If schools do close, we have opportunities to provide work to students in a variety of forms. Some work will be online and sent via a variety of platforms and some work will be offline as we do not want children sitting on devices all day. Those families already choosing to keep their children at home can request work to be given. Please contact the school via email or phone. Children currently at home are welcome to return to school if they are well. I pray that you and your family remain healthy, well and happy.

Bianca Cooke – Principal

R.E. NEWS



During the 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.



This week the Mini Vinnie's students have been talking to the classes from K-6 about how difficult it is for farmers in Cambodia. They have been affected by climate change and do not have the money or knowledge to change their farming practices. Many of these farmers are forced into jobs in the city where they are exploited.



For every \$50 we raise Caritas can purchase 50 chicks for farmers. These chicks not only provide a food source and way of making a living it also helps keep families together.

We encourage the children to donate and put the money in their class Project Compassion Box. For the children to demonstrate their understanding the concept of almsgiving perhaps they could donate some of their birthday money, go without buying an item at the canteen or do some jobs around the house to earn some money to donate. The link below gives an example of how Caritas can help a farming family in Cambodia.

<https://lent.caritas.org.au/page/week-2#blank>

Mrs Shane Robinson—REC

Week 9 Dates

Waste Free Recess & Lunch

Mon 23 March

8.30am Class Lines—then straight into class

Tue 24 March

8-10am Uniform Shop—email orders only
Dance Fever

Wed 25 March

Student Banking—Cancelled till Term 2
7.45am Choir

Fri 27 March

7.45am Band

Coming Dates:

Term 2:

Mon 27 April

STOP PRESS NAPLAN 2020

CANCELLED FOR THE YEAR

This is in response to the delivery, administration and centralised marking of the tests. Details will be made available as they arrive.

**ENROLLING NOW
KINDERGARTEN
2021**

**Please contact
school office:
02 9407 6600**

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>

School Calendar: <http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au/en/Community/Events>

Parents Guide to helping Children with Reading and Writing at Home (Kaye Lowe)

Reading

The media often overstates the need to teach phonics. Phonics is the relationship between letters and sounds and is not the only strategy children use when reading unfamiliar words. There are other effective ways to assist children identify unfamiliar words, which includes the practice of encouraging children to look for meaning. Prior to saying anything to assist the reader, allow sufficient wait time. Readers need to look around for clues. The aim is to move the reader towards independence as quickly as possible and that does mean getting out of the way. The reader has to look around to locate clues. Too often, their only clue is to look to the parent to fill the gap. Rescuing won't help! Keep your eyes on the book and avoid eye contact. After waiting sufficient time, try saying:

- Read on and collect other clues.
- Go back to the beginning of the sentence and re-read what you read.
- Look at the illustration and see if there are clues there.
- What do you think would make sense here?

Avoid saying 'sound it out', or giving a clue that takes the child away from the text such as '[That word]...it is the colour of the sweater you were wearing last Tuesday'. If the word is an uncommon word or outside of the child's vocabulary such as 'camouflage' drop it in, don't have a vocabulary lesson. Keep the reading flowing because it is paramount that the reader comprehends the text. Keep on reading.

Writing

In classrooms, children explore writing as a process from drafts to published pieces. Children are encouraged to write for real purposes and utilise a range of different text types such as recipes, factual texts, notes, report writing, narratives and poetry. They are also taught to consider how to appeal to different audiences.

Handwriting should not be confused with writing. Handwriting is a surface feature of writing and children who are self-conscious of their handwriting benefit from opportunities to write and draw with a variety of pens, textas, paint, magic boards, chalk and 'fancy' pencils. When it comes to publishing, children often publish on the computer, use voice to text recognition or publish in a variety of ways such a poster, alphabet books, dioramas, or chapter books. The form the publishing takes is the best match for the type of story being told.

Work that comes home from school may not have every spelling error corrected, every grammatical mistake rectified or punctuation inserted.

**Student Council War on Waste initiative –
Waste Free EVERY DAY**

It is important to talk with your children about the purpose of the work and what they learned, rather than emphasise the errors. Ask 'tell me questions' such as: 'Tell me about this work ...' 'Tell me how you did this ...' 'Tell me what you liked about this activity.'

Find more information at:

http://www.petaa.edu.au/imis_prod/w/Teaching_Resources/Parents_guide.aspx/

Attendance

Please advise the school by phone, email or letter if your child is currently staying at home due to the COVID-19 situation.

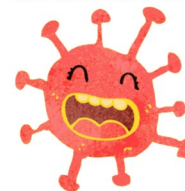
Coronavirus Information for your Children

To help your child understand the Coronavirus, the following link takes you to a virtual story book which can help them comprehend and manage the virus.

https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-coronavirus

HELLO!

I am a VIRUS,
cousins with the Flu and
the Common Cold



My name is Coronavirus

Hillsbus School Service Change

Please find attached the updated school bus advice sheet for Hillsbus services commencing 04 May 2020.

- Route 2517 will terminate at Gilroy College.
- Route 3745 will terminate at Darcey Rd after Jarrah Pl.

We remind students they must have a valid Opal card to travel on school buses, and must tap on and off morning and afternoon.



**ENROLLING NOW FOR
KINDERGARTEN 2021**

Please contact the school office on 9407 6600 if you would like to enrol your child into Kindergarten 2021.

Congratulations to the following students receiving Social Skills Awards

1B	Sofia Raic	Charles Watson
1G	Not For Publication	Madyson Banicevic
1W	Spencer Tang	Samara Rodrigues
2B	Amelie Saliba	Emilia Crecca
2G	Christopher De Ponte	Charlize Alatl
2W	Harry Watson	Ameera Singhal
3B	Tayla Van Ryswyk	Aleksander Puleo
3G	Sofia George	Abigail Wigham
4B	Nathan Elias	Xavier Shallack
4G	Elizabeth D'Souza	Natalie Alam
4W	Sebastian Haywood	Elle Dibble
5B	Melanie Wong	Douglas Windress
5G	Sara Uricoechea	Hilda Mormul
5W	Mikayla Alam	Renee Sakkal
6B	Charlotte Cowper	William Looker
6G	Jasone Iwanowski	Georgina Kassis
6W	Matthew Barone	Isla Guy



Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following children who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge:

Elliot Greer, Ava Papandrea, Lucia Aiossa, Julia Foong, Sofia Papandrea, Sophia Black, Olivia Kirkham, Ella Lagana, Natalie Samperi, Antonia Zeaiter.

Kindergarten to Year 2 children need to read 30 books (25 from booklist and 5 free choice), however don't forget that they can have books read to them at home and school.

Years 3 to 6 need to read their 20 books themselves (15 from booklist and 5 free choice).



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 Wed 16 Dec (last day for students)

School Fees

If you haven't already finalised your account for Term 1 we ask if you could please make a payment now, school fees were due on **Wednesday, 18th March**. Thank you to those families that have finalised the account already. Should you wish to make an arrangement for your 2020 school fee account please contact Mrs Vicki Cassidy on 9407-6600 or email vcassidy@parra.catholic.edu.au.

When making school payments please consider using EFT, direct debit, credit card payments, BPoint, BPay, Post BillPay etc as we are making the transition to a cashless environment.

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.

St Bernadette's Car Park Reminder

NO ENTRY INTO SCHOOL FROM OLD NORTHERN
ROAD AT ANYTIME,
SCHOOL ACCESS IS VIA BRISBANE ROAD.
DO NOT TURN RIGHT OUT OF SCHOOL DRIVEWAY
INTO BRISBANE ROAD.

Parents are not to park in the teacher's car park at any time.

Please use pedestrian crossings.

Remember you are entering a school. Please drive with caution.

Kiss 'n Drop:

Children must exit from the left hand side of the car only.

Parents are not to exit the car.

Children are to have bags in the car with them, do not get bags from boots.

Afternoon Tuckshop Pick up:

Parking is available in the spaces provided.

Parents can collect their children from the tuckshop area.

Children are not to enter the car park without an adult.

Blue Wall Pick Up:

Parents are not to enter the car park until after 3pm if collecting their child from the blue wall.

Parents are not to park in the car park prior to 3pm as these spaces are needed for parents collecting their children from the tuckshop.

Number to be displayed in front window left hand side.

Children must be able to put on own seatbelt, if they are unable to please collect your child from tuckshop or Brisbane Road.

See attached NRMA Car Park Etiquette rules.

P&F News:

Uniform Shop

Please be advised that the uniform shop will be **closed to face to face customers** for the remainder of this term (March 24-April 7). All orders for winter uniforms will be accepted via email only uniformshop.stbpnf@gmail.com.

Due to the current global situation we have been informed by our suppliers that there will be delays in receiving stock. This will have a direct impact on our ability to supply certain items. Currently we are out of stock of microfibre jackets in size 10 and while these are on order we do not have a timeframe for delivery. Additionally polo shirts in size 8, 14, 16 and small are also out of stock.



We will not be accepting any new back orders for out of stock items. We will notify parents via the newsletter of current items out of stock and if we receive any updates for delivery.

If you have previously placed a back order we will endeavour to fill this as soon as we can. Please contact the uniform shop directly if you would like to change the size or item or if you would like a refund.
(uniformshop.stbpnf@gmail.com)

Please note you will need to have your order form emailed to us by **Tuesdays 8am** for the order to be filled or it will be held over until the next Tuesday.

Winter uniform

Students are permitted to wear either summer or winter uniform (not a mixture) for the first two weeks of Term 2. In week 3, we ask that all students be in their full winter uniform. (Dependent on stock availability).

