



# St Bernadette's School

Friday 20 August 2021 — Term 3 Week 6

No. 26

Dear Parents,  
St Bernadette's celebrated our Power Up Paralympics day today and it was great to see so many children joining our whole school zoom assembly and wearing a T shirt of their sports house colour. We celebrated diversity and inclusivity with a focus on the upcoming Paralympics. The children also took part in a virtual incursion which helped to consolidate the children's understandings of celebrating the skills and talents of all of us. Did you know that 15% of the population lives with a disability of some sort?

As Lockdown and learning from home looks like it is set to continue for a few more weeks at least, we have made some minor changes to the weekly schedule of school events to enable the teachers to have their usual professional learning and planning time. The teachers will be engaged in professional learning, meetings and planning each Wednesday from 12pm. This means they will not be available to provide feedback to students, run zoom sessions nor respond to student/parent work emails during this time. They will, of course, continue to provide work for the students for the day and if needed, reschedule zoom sessions to earlier in the day. If there is a problem or concern, the Office remains open as usual to take phone messages or respond to emails.

We will continue to have whole school zoom assemblies on Fridays at 2pm. All are invited to attend.

Once again, I thank you for supporting your child at home with their learning. I know it is not easy though the teachers and I are extremely grateful for your help. I hope that you are able to spend some time outside with the children each day and I know that many of you use a walk or bike ride as a reward for completing school work in a timely manner! What a great incentive, especially as the weather is warming up so nicely at the moment.

I pray that you and your family continue to stay happy and healthy.

**Bianca Cooke, Principal**

## R.E. NEWS



Do you have knots in your life that seem impossible to untie? Turn to Mary, Undoer of Knots!

The devotion to Mary, Undoer (or Untier) of Knots is about 300 years old, but became more widely known as Pope Francis spoke about and promoted it throughout his papacy, and while he was Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Pope Francis said:

**Through Mary, "All the knots of our heart, every knot of our conscience can be undone."**



**These knots take away our peace and serenity. They are dangerous, since many knots can form a tangle which gets more and more painful and difficult to undo.**

**But we know one thing: nothing is impossible for God's mercy! Even the most tangled knots are loosened by his grace. And Mary, whose yes opened the door for God to undo the knot of the ancient disobedience, is the Mother who patiently and lovingly brings us to God, so that he can untangle the knots of our soul by his fatherly mercy."**

What knot in your life is creating pain for you? Turn over your problem to Mary. As she works on the knot, she will point you to Jesus.

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### Week 7 Dates

**Mon 19 July to Fri 27th August Remote Learning**

**Wed 25 August 7:30pm P&F Meeting via zoom**

**Term 3 dates: Tue 13 July to Thu 16 September**

**Mon 16 August—Fri 3 September Student Data Validation**

**Fri 17 September—Staff Development Day**

**Term 4 dates: Tue 5 October to Wed 15 December**

**Thu 16 & Fri 17 December—Staff Development Days**



**ST BERNADETTE'S**  
PRIMARY CASTLE HILL

**Enrolling now**

**for 2022**

357 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill  
9407 6600 Register at  
www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au

**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>

## Wellbeing Library

Dear Parents,  
Grandparents and  
Guardians,

During the week many adults I have spoken to have shared the ways they are coping with this current lockdown and the overwhelming stand out is their connection with friends. Whether it be by a phone call, an email or for many of us a zoom catch-up (now that we have figured it out!). These zoom catch-ups have become a weekly part of our lives where we laugh and cry. It has given us a chance to reconnect and get a sense of normality with the help of our family and friends.

We have noticed that the children's connection with friends and classmates has been challenged during remote learning. This has been an important conversation the teachers have had this week. We have tried via class zoom to help those reconnections but it isn't quite the same. Many of the students have spoken about their parents organising Zoom Playdates which provides a great opportunity for them to rekindle friendships. When the time comes for the children to come back to school this important connection with friends and classmates will help alleviate any anxiety they may feel.

This week our Wellbeing focus has been on friends and what friendship looks like. I suggested to the students to ask if they can organise a catch-up with friends over zoom or on the telephone. You might need to help them with some conversation starters or give them a theme so they have something that will spark the discussion. I am sure once they get started it will be a great opportunity for them to get a sense of normality again. I know I do!

I have included the resources we used this week. Thank you to all the families that are practicing meditation with their children, I hope it is helping your wellbeing too.

Take care  
Sally Coppini

[Kindy-Year 2  
Meditation K-2  
Sesame Street - What is a Friend?  
What makes a good friend?  
You've got a friend in me song](#)

[Years 3-Year 6  
Meditation 3-6  
Friendship Soup  
Disney movies about friendship](#)



## KINDERGARTEN & Years 1 to 6 2022

Have you enrolled your child for Kindergarten 2022? If not, limited places remain for next year's Kindergarten intake. Interviews are now taking place with

Mrs Cooke, school principal (and for Yrs 1 to 6 2022). If you have not yet submitted your enrolment form and accompanying documents could you please contact the school office as soon as possible.

## Student Participation in Volunteering

The letter below is from **Kids Giving Back** (an organisation that provide hands-on, age appropriate, volunteering opportunities for young people ages 6-18) in recognition of two of our students who volunteered their time, help and support during the school holidays. Well done to Amelia and Elliott Lavis!

*I am writing to you to let you know of the wonderful volunteer work undertaken by members of your school community in term 2 and the school holidays through participation in programs with [Kids Giving Back](#).*

*Programs included: [Cook4Good](#), [School Holiday Programs](#) & [Online](#)*

*Due to the lockdown occurring towards the start of the school holidays, many kids were unable to attend the programs they had booked, and I would still like to acknowledge these students as well as the students who took part in our online programs during the lockdown.*

**Elliott Lavis  
Amelia Lavis**

*It is always a pleasure to have young people and their families engage in our programs and your students have undertaken these opportunities in their leisure time. Our trained facilitators have been unanimous in their praise for the enthusiasm and engagement of your students.*

**Carole Schlessinger—Co-Founder**



## School Counsellor

Is your child experiencing difficulties coping with lockdown and need someone to talk to?

Did you know that we have a school counsellor who is available Mondays-Wednesdays? Her name is Kristy Washington and if you would like Kristy to give you a call to discuss your concerns, please contact the office.

A message will be passed to Kristy, who will then contact you.



**RE News continued from page 1...**

**Prayer**

*Mother who never refuses to come to the help of your children in need,  
Mother whose hands never stop working for the welfare of your children,  
moved as they are by the loving mercy and kindness that exists in your Immaculate Heart,  
cast your compassionate and merciful eyes on me and see the snarl of knots that exists in my life.  
Oh Mother! You know the difficulties, sorrow and pain that I've had because of them.  
O loving Mother, I place the ribbon of my life and this knot (these knots) into your loving hands,  
hands which can undo even the most difficult knot.  
Most holy Mother, come to my aid and intercede for me before God with your prayers.  
I cast this knot into your hands (mention your intention/ need) and beg you to undo it,  
in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, and for the glory of God, once and for all.  
Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, pray for us!*

**Mrs Shane Robinson—REC**

Reminder from last week:

**Student Data Validation**

**Please update your contact details**

On Monday 16 August you would have received an email or SMS (for those parents without email) from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) asking you to review and, where necessary, update the key information they hold about your children currently enrolled in CEDP schools.



**Teacher Feedback to Students—Classwork**

I am sure you have noticed the amazing work that your child's teacher is doing in preparing work for your child to do at home, as well as running zoom lessons and answering a mountain of emails and messages.

The teachers are doing a fabulous job looking at each child's work submissions and providing comments as needed. Sometimes the teacher might use a picture or digital sticker to indicate they have seen the work and sometimes they will leave some feedback indicating your child's next steps in learning. Sometimes the feedback is written, sometimes it is verbally recorded. **Not every task will receive written/verbal feedback. IF** feedback is provided, teachers are encouraging the children to read or listen to the feedback given, as that will assist them in future tasks.

Please continue to encourage your child to do their best with their work and submit their tasks regularly.

Of course, your child only needs to complete whatever work you feel that he/she can complete and if all else fails, read, read, read.

**Power Up Paralympic Day**

To kick off our 'Power Up Paralympics' Day we held our online school assembly at 8:50 this morning. We had 333 devices join our zoom today - our biggest yet!

This was a great way to kickstart a day of learning about diversity, resilience, acceptance and inclusion with the team from Variety Children's Charity.



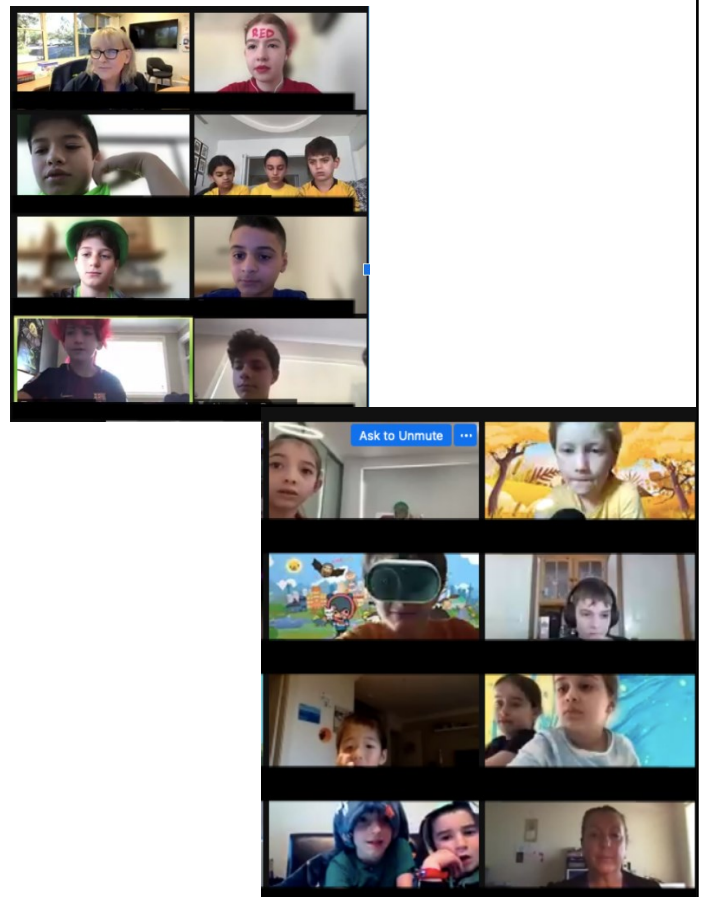
**Bernie Roo's Challenge:**

Send your entries to the school email to earn House Points.

**Have you tried our House Points challenge?**

**Your Task is To:**

1. Blindfolded Bottle Flip
2. Sock Toss into a bucket without using your hands





Does your family need a walk in your local area? Please see this guide from NSW Health:

**Outdoor Public Space**

Parks and public spaces help us to stay healthy and well. We thank the people of western Sydney for using our parks, bushland and streets **responsibly** at this time.

**The Hills Shire Council Local Government Area**

[Parks and recreation venues](#)

[Bushwalk tracks and trails](#)

[Cycleways](#)

**For public space managers and organisations**

[Outdoor spaces guides](#)

[Using public spaces](#)

**For community members**

[Walking and cycling ideas](#)

[Using public spaces](#)

For further details:

<https://www.wslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/COVID-19-Wellbeing/sport-outdoorspaces>

**Book Club—Term 3**

This term bookclub will be a little different, and we are so excited to be able to offer Bookclub during these unprecedented times.

**Firstly** the **ISSUE 5** brochure is online -

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/media/6360/bc521.pdf>

**Secondly** deliveries **will not** be sent to school but directly to your home for \$7.50 delivery fee. For our new parents and those ordering for the first time please use the following link to register and order.

<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>

**Remember** - 20 percent of all orders goes back to the school to purchase new material for our children.

For any further assistance you can call Scholastic directly on 1800 021 233.

**Pope Francis Asks us to Pray**

After leading the recitation of the Angelus on last Sunday's Solemnity of the Assumption, Pope Francis expressed his concern over the situation in Afghanistan. He asked everyone to unite in praying to "the God of peace so that the clamour of weapons might cease and solutions can be found at the table of dialogue." He said only this way can the "battered population of that country – men, women, elderly and children" be able to "return to their own homes, and live in peace and security, in total mutual respect".

The Pope also recalled the strong earthquake that shook Haiti last week, causing numerous deaths, wounding many, and causing extensive damage. He expressed his "closeness to the dear people hard hit by the earthquake", offering his prayers to the Lord for the victims. He offered his encouragement to the survivors and hopes that the help of the international community might reach them. "May the solidarity of all alleviate the consequences of the tragedy!", he emphasized, inviting everyone to pray a Hail Mary for Haiti.



**Bus Notice**

All Hillsbus & Busways school bus services will not operate from Monday 23 August 2021 until further notice.

For further information please visit [Transport for NSW website](#).